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CANADIAN DENIES GORBACHEV REQUESTED ARMS MEDIATION

LD032059 Montreal International Service in English 2000 GMT 3 May 87

[Text] The Soviet press attache in Ottawa says Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev did not ask Canada to act as a mediator in nuclear disarmament talks. Igor Lobanov denied the report published yesterday in a Canadian newspaper stating that Soviet envoy Aleksandr Bessmertnykh had asked Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney to help eliminate nuclear missiles in Europe. He says the envoy met with the prime minister and informed him of the Soviet position on arms control negotiations. However, Mr Lobanov, who attended the meeting, says it was not an appeal but rather an exchange of information.

SENATE COMMITTEE APPROVES FUNDING FOR SDI

LD011442 Moscow TASS in English 1020 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Wasington May 1 TASS -- The Senate Committee for Armed Services of the U.S. Congress has decided to approve allocations for the implementation of the "Star Wars" program in the coming fiscal year to the sum of 4.5 billion dollars. The AP news agency reports with reference to congressional sources that this sum is much smaller than 5.8 billion dollars requested by the White House.

First the draft law was examined by a committee of the House of Representatives which suggested that the SDI budget for fiscal 1988 stand at 3.8 billion dollars and not more. According to AP, overall U.S. military expenditures for fiscal 1988 were set by the Senate committee at 303 billion dollars instead of 312 billion dollars requested by the Reagan administration.

'TOP PRIORITY' 1 MAY REVIEWS INF PROPOSAL

LD021249 Moscow World Service in English 1510 GMT 1 May 87

["Top Priority" program presented by Vladimir Pozner, with Radomir Bogdanov and Sergey Plekhanov of the United States of America and Canada Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences]

[Text] [Pozner] Obviously top priority today is the issue of the INF missiles in Europe, and that is to say the draft proposal that has been tabled now by the Soviet Union, what are your feelings about that?

[Bogdanov] My feeling about that is the same that you have, but I, I'm afraid that there is another issue at that top priority, you have come back to the "Top Priority," we were missing you very much Vladimir, and I believe that our listeners at the American end also were missing you, maybe you will tell us some words why you were absent, why, what happened to you?

[Pozner] Well I don't want, I don't want to waste too much time on this valuable program to talk about that. However, I was in the United States for about 3 weeks on a very interesting visit.

[Bogdanov] That's a very good excuse, that's the only excuse.

[Pozner] Yes, that's why I was not with you.

[Plekhanov] I hope you listened to "Top Priority"?

[Pozner] Of course, of course, although I must say that you don't find short wave radio sets in every home or in any hotel, you have to make an effort. But let's get back to this issue of the INF and the Soviet proposals.

[Bogdanov] Now I have a clean conscience to come back to the major issue of our program, which is INF. But let me, you know, we have been talking about that quite a number of times and I, I believe that our listeners are aware of the details of all that. I would like to have another look, at what INF means as a step in the direction of dealing with the arms control. It seems if you hear some voices from Europe, from America, from some other places, you hear some voices saying look, what's this all about, what's importance of that, it has no military importance, it has no importance at all, it's a very minor thing, why you are so much excited about that? And I believe it's a high time to summarize, you know, and to give an answer to that. I believe it's a great great event in, if it happens of course, in our life. Why? Because for the first time, after 40 years of the arms race between USSR and United States existing arms system, weapons system, existed, not only existing but already deployed, can be, can be eliminated. You know, that's the real issue, that's the real, you know event, number one.

Number two, you make a first step toward the nonnuclear whatever you call dream, or fiction or whatever it is, but it's a real step, you eliminate the whole class of nuclear weapons.

And the third point of mine is that the very, you know efficient proof that a deal, when you are in the spirit of compromise, when you are in the spirit of a goodwill, a deal is possible even between such an administration as this honorable republican administration, and between the evil, evil empire, that's my point you know.

[Pozner] Oh I think that's a very important point. Basically what you're saying is then that if we do get an agreement on INF it will be the first time not only in the history of Soviet-American relations, but I think it may be the first time ever that weapons have actually been cut back on. And if you look back on history I don't think you can find any time when it happened. I may be wrong, but certainly not in Soviet-American relations when a class of weapons was simply destroyed.

We will talk more about that perhaps, and I don't want you to lose your energy Dr Bogdanov, but I'd like to ask Dr Plekhanov one question, and that is in the Soviet draft that had been tabled is there anything our listeners should know that they don't know about today? Are there any, perhaps you might sum it up, the points that they should be aware of. Just what are the Soviets proposing? The reason I say this is because, having just come back from the United States, I found that the majority of the people I met with, and these were not factory workers, mind you, were not at all aware of Soviet intentions. So perhaps you might sum it up?

[Bogdanov] You mean well informed public opinion.

[Pozner] That's what I said, yes indeed.

[Plekhanov] Well, the main thrust of the INF agreement, as proposed by the Soviet Union, is to eliminate all existng medium-range missiles from Europe.

[Pozner] Meaning American and...?

[Plemhamov] American and Soviet missiles from Europe, and that refers to missiles with a range of 600 miles or more.

[Pozner] When you say eliminate would that mean destroyed? Be destroyed totally?

[Plekhanov] Be destroyed, be destroyed totally.

[Pozner] Does that also mean that this destruction is being supervised?

[Plekhanov] Yes, of course. Under strict verification.

[Bogdanov] That's the main point, yes.

[Plekhanov] Yes. Yes, well, I don't know what our readers are aware of that. [sentence as heard]

[Pozner] Well, please...

[Plekhanov interrupts] Verification is extremely important. We are for an agreement which would effectively eliminate those missiles, that no loopholes would be left and no chance for cheating that would exist for either side. So we are for very intrusive, I would say, verification procedures, including on-site inspections, including inspections at the places where those weapons were produced and....

[Pozner interrupts] And where they will be destroyed.

[Plekhanov] And where they will be destroyed, yes. Destruction itself will be under international supervision. Then another very important point refers to the missiles with ranges from 300 to 600 miles. They are called the shorter range intermediate missiles, intermediate forces, and those are to be eliminated too, within the year from the moment that we eliminate the INF. So that class of missiles will also be destroyed. What will be left from the INF are 100 warheads for the United States and the Soviet Union in the Asian part of the Soviet Union, so Europe will be free of that class of missiles, and they will be just a smaller reminder, a remainder.

[Pozner] You're saying 100 warheads for the Soviets in the Asian part of the Soviet Union?

[Plekhanov] In the Asian part, and a similar amount, the same amount for the United States.

[Pozner] In some other region?

[Plekhanov] In some other region, of course, not, not [word indistinct]

[Bogdanov] So why is it they are not reaching the territory on the other side? And, I am sorry, just very short comment. You know I wonder will the American negotiators in Geneva give their consent to our very tricky proposal on verification. Why is it tricky? Because this suggests that we have a right, we, I mean -- American side and the Soviet side, to have a permanent inspections on the American side and the Soviet side, to have a permanent inspections on the factories which may be under suspicion as producing missiles of medium-range.

[Pozner] That is our proposal.

[Bogdanov] That is our proposal, and which meets American, which meets...

[Plekhanov interrupts] Very strict verification requirements.

[Bogdanov] Verification requirements of the American side. Now we have, as our American listeners are aware, state-run factories, and they have private-run factories. I wonder how they will force their private-run factories to allow Soviet inspectors to be all the time present at their factories? That's my question. I don't ask you for the answers.

[Pozner] That obviously is one of the complex issues. Now there's another complex issue which I hope perhaps you will help elucidate, and that is as follows. If you look at what is happening today as we move forward toward an INF agreement, you see that in the United States some people who were previously for agreement, some might be qualified as liberals, others not as liberals but people who have been for agreements. For instance, Dr Kissinger who is definitely not a liberal but has been for agreements, now seems to be very much against them, whereas certain hardliners now seem to be moving towards agreement. What is happening? What is this disarray, this mixture of, I don't know, different views suddenly changing? Can anyone tell me what's happening, what's the...?

[Plekhanov] Well, I think that there are several developments which do look strange in American politics in the past year or two. Things are changing both in the United States and in Soviet-American relations and at a time of great shifts there are people who lose their bearings, so to say.

[Pozner] You're talking about crossroads, like kind of?

[Plekhanov] Yes, crossroads, people changing their minds, and some people being at a loss, losing orientation. As far as Dr Kissinger is concerned, I think that he's simply jealous. He is used to the role -- he is used to the role of the architect of foreign policy, and right now he sees that the administration, the U.S. Administration, is finding its way around an agreement with the Soviet Union which clearly would be billed as a major agreement without the participation of Dr Kissinger. And I think in that situation he is simply trying to, well to minimize the importance of something if it is without him.

[Pozner] Are you saying that Dr Kissinger is an egoist?

[Plekhanov] Well, that would be an overstatement to say that. But, but I think that the personal feelings are to be taken into account. I note with interest that in a recent speech to the trilateral commission meeting in California, Dr Kissinger made the same arguments against an INF agreement and he was not supported by the audience there, and that was an audience representing a broad spectrum of elite views in the United States and Western Europe and Japan on the foreign policy issue.

[Bogdanov] And you know, I always was in difficulty in defining what American liberal means, you know. They have such a funny mixture of conservative liberal or whatever it is that you never, you are never able to define exact of precise -- to give a precise definition who is Mr Kissinger, how much he is conservative, how much he is liberal. [sentence as heard] One day we should put this question.

[Pozner] In this case, you are using the term Mr Kissinger generically, I suppose?

[Bogdanov] Yes, yes, yes.

[Pozner] Right. Getting back to what you said at the beginning of this show, Dr Bogdanov, about some people saying that in the final analysis the INF treaty is not all that important and that from the military standpoint this is a minor issue. Before I continue, and I will continue, I'd like to ask both of you, would you basically in a cold analysis, agree that INF in the military sense is not all that important?

[Bogdanov] My analysis, and I dare to say that I have been spending quite a deal of time on military problems, my analysis is it has a lot of military [word indistinct].

[Pozner] You do believe so?

[Bogdanov] Yes, I do believe.

[Pozner] How about you?

[Plekhanov] So do I and I can try to prove it. I think that those missiles are especially dangerous becuase they are within a very close range of each other.

[Pozner] Meaning?

[Plekhanov] I mean the INF systems. They are very powerful nuclear-tipped missiles which are suitable for lightning strikes and which are computer-operated, and as such, you know, they put the world closer, they move the world closer to a hair-trigger kind of a situation. And so I think withdrawing them from the firing range of each other, destroying them completely, would mean the lowering of, of the danger, the level of danger of an unwanted nuclear war in Europe.

[Pozner] Well then, let me put it slightly different. If I were to say we have scales here, and on one scale we put the military importance of achieving the INF agreement, and on the other scale we put the climate, the atmosphere that would be created by such an agreement being reached, which scale would weigh heavier?

[Bogdanov] Both.

[Pozner] Both would weigh heavier?

[Bogdanov] Yeah.

[Plekhanov] I don't think you put, you should put them on different sides of the scale. I think you should put them on the same side, because they would be, would mean progress in the same direction.

[Pozner] Well I'm going to keep on plugging away. I will still ask you, do you not think that if such an agreement is arrived at and signed, and if we begin to destroy the INF, would that not create a completely new political climate that would be enormously important in leading to other agreements?

[Bogdanov] Vladimir, that goes without saying. I am in full agreement with you. That's the most important point you have mentioned just now in the whole business we are talking about.

[Pozner] I see.

[Plekhanov] Well, of course, this could be the start down a long road toward complete nuclear disarmament, and not only nuclear disarmament but disarmament in the conventional area as well. It could be the opening salvo in the whole fusillade of, you know, if one can use that world in this context, against the danger of war.

[Pozner] Yes?

[Bogdanov] Only very short comment. You know, we have been talking a lot about trust. If we start eliminating missiles under strict control and after 2, 3 years people will say look, they are honest, I mean both sides.

[Pozner] Both sides.

[Bogdanov] They are honestly, you know.

[Pozner] Doing what they said they'd do.

[Bogdanov] Doing what they say. You know what tremendous impact it will have for the (?other) arms control, you know for the changing of the whole climate of trust between two sides.

[Plekhanov] Now that is very important and such practices which we are suggesting now as the exchange of inspectors and so on, which would put the military on both sides into closer contact with each other, would also serve to increase the level of trust. After all, we must face this fact that there is no way we can fight a war against each other without destroying ourselves.

[Pozner] Good enough. Time is running out on us. I have one last question. What with all the disarray that we see in the West about this issue and the once liberals becoming very conservative or whatever it is, there are other vistas which can lead to agreement, which can lead to better understanding. I believe one of them are space bridges, which is a completely different area, but I do know that both of you were present recently when there was a contact, a space bridge beween representatives of the United States Congress and members of the USSR Supreme Soviet. What was your impression?

[Bogdanov] My impression is that that kind of bridge could become possible only in the present environment of really both sides trying to deliver something.

[Pozner] Were you impressed by what you saw at all? Do you think it worked?

[Plekhanov] On yes, oh yes. Yes, I thought of a biblical saying: There is a time to throw stones and there is a time to gather stones. Now the stone-gathering atmosphere was so impressive during that bridge.

[Pozner] Was it really?

[Plekhanov] Yes, yes. The two sides were not in the mood for making points against each other. They were interested in having a productive dialogue and sharing their experiences and finding their common ground and something common that they could do together to improve Soviet-American relations. And I think that we missed there [as heard] was you because you were one of the pioneer bridge builders in that area.

[Pozner] That's all right. I think there should be more pioneers around. I believe there will be a follow-up on this, will there not?

[Bogdanov] Yes. Now, I believe it will be followed.

[Pozner] Well, very good, I want to thank you for being with us today, thank our listeners for also being with us and say good-bye until a week from today at the same time when you will hear another edition of "Top Priority." This is Vladimir Pozner.

COMMENTATOR EXAMINES INF REDUCTION ISSUES

PM301537 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 29 Apr 87 First Edition p 1

[Vladimir Katin article under the rubric "Our Dialogue": "Europe Should Be Peaceful"]

[Text] these days all our business at work, all our meetings, conversations, and all the calls and letters to the editor keep coming back to the same chief topic. Never before has world interest been so great in the Soviet-U.S. Geneva talks as in the last week of April. After a recess, they have resumed in a new atmosphere. The Soviet delegation and the U.S. representatives have begun drawing up specific accords on medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles.

The proposals made quite recently during M.S. Gorbachev's visit to Czechoslovakia and the subsequent discussion of the entire complex of muclear disarmament problems at the talks with U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz in Moscow have opened up the way to an agreement, provided that our partners really want this.

It is often said that Europe is our common home. True, it has served us for many thousands of years, it is comfortable to live in, and appears to be secure and everlasting. But in reality it is incredibly fragile, because hundreds of megatons of nuclear explosives are now stored in it and so the majority of European countries would cease to exist after an explosion on their territory of even 10 powerful nuclear warheads. Consequently the interest and concern shown by SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA readers regarding what is being done -- or not being done -- to ensure Eurpoean security is undertandable.

Engineer V. Khitov from Kuybyshev wrote to the editor: "Western radio stations are broadcasting a great deal lately on the subject of how it is essential to keep a policy of strength when dealing with the Soviet Union on the question of medium-range missiles and other issues so that the Russians will be more complaisant. How should this be interpreted? After all, a position of strength on one side presupposes a position of weakness on the other -- ours...."

The question is germane. Indeed, since the U.S. secretary of state's visit to Moscow, the American and West European mass media have been loudly discussing the means and levers with which pressure should be brought to bear on the Soviet Union. It has been suggested that an agreement on eliminating medium-range missiles be linked with the possibility of a NATO "arms upgrading" in short-range missiles. The NATO staff is trying to think of how to keep "Pershing-2" in a version truncated by one stage (that is, with reduced range) and how to transfer cruise missiles to ships. There are even influential political figures to be found in Western Europe and the United States who frankly say that a nuclear-free Europe is unacceptable to the West and that it would be better to lose face by going back on one's word and retracting one's own proposals than to allow muclear missiles to be removed from Europe.

Brent Scowcroft, for example, who was national security assistant to the President in the mid-seventies, wrote recently in THE WASHINGTON POST: "The administration made a fundamental error when it proposed its zero option in 1981; this decision should not be used now to justify the withdrawal of the missiles."

All this puts us on our guard. After all, the new Soviet proposal on missiles in Europe creates the best conditions for making a breakthrough in the chronically difficult question of muclear arms reduction.

It seems that NATO is putting together a package of conditions which, even if it does not prevent us reaching an agreement on eliminating medium-range missiles in Europe, could cause the talks to drag on for a long time. It is, as our reader rightly says, a policy of pressure. This method in relation to the USSR is not new. The whole question is of how effective this method really is and whether it has ever produced the desired results.

I was recently asked during a lecture: Say what you like, but it was the Soviet Union nevertheless that selected the question of medium-range missiles from the Reykjavik package, so does this not mean that they can squeeze us dry and get concessions out of us?

This is not how matters stand. The Soviet Union's proposal on medium-range missiles in Europe is a specific manifestation of creative, flexible political thinking. The initiative was certainly not made as a result of outside pressure. During the months since Reykjavik the USSR has painstakingly weighed up, studied, and analyzed the situation that has taken shape since the summit and has sensitively tuned into the moods of the European and world public. While being concerned for our own security, we do not divorce it from the security of other states. It is in this that one should seek the reason for the change in the Soviet position on medium-range missiles.

This is how it happened. When every means had been tried and when it had become clear that the United States was not prepared to resolve all the issues in the package as a whole, we acknowledged that it would be expedient to first reach an agreement on medium-range missiles. This shows flexibility in our policy and courage in our choice of a reasonable compromise. At the same time, the Soviet Union has not departed from its principled position in the question of eliminating nuclear arms or with regard to the rest of the package and the whole nuclear arms complex. M.S. Gorbachev specially emphasizes that the Soviet Government still considers it highly important to reach an agreement on substantially limiting and ultimately eliminating strategic arms. The conclusion of such an agreement must be made conditional on the decision to prevent the placement of arms in space, in view of the organic interdependence of these issues.

In my conversations with foreign journalists, I quite often hear the following argument in favor of keeping U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe: If they are removed the Warsaw Pact countries will gain a considerable advantage in conventional weapons. Is this so?

In the arguments of those who are opposed to the elimination of the missiles, I personally am mainly struck by the abundance of figures and every possible calculation and computation from which no balanced equation is ever made but a strong bias invariably drawn, showing the Warsaw Pact's alleged military superiority. All this seems to reveal an evil intent and a desire to cover the path travelled by Soviet-U.S. talks with thorns. But there are other highly authoritative opinions from Western sources. For example, according to information provided by the London International Institute for strategic Studies and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, there is an overall balance of forces in conventional weapons between NATO and the Warsaw Pace. At the same time the Brookings Institution (United States) believes that the ratio of the two alliances' conventional forces is now even somewhat in the West's favor.

Moreover, it will soon be 1 year since NATO began studying in depth what would seem to be very easy to understand -- the collective ideas put forward by the Warsaw Pact states to reduce conventional arms and armed forces by 1 million personnel on each side. Unfortunately, no progress has yet been made. There is worse to come. NATO has evidently actually "forgotten" this proposal, because its leaders have suddently begun making strong references to the Warsaw Pact's large preponderance both in terms of the number of divisions and in conventional arms.

There can be no argument that any new initiative must be discussed. The impression is forming, however, that many politicians in the West have no burning desire to become really actively involved in the process of freeing Europe of its nuclear explosives and that they are procrastinating in every way possible by inventing arguments off-hand to preserve them.

This discussion requires elementary honesty of our foreign opponents. After all, Western Europe has U.S. forward-based weapons they prefer for some reason to keep quiet about. The United States has sited more than 1,000 military installations in Western Europe, including 271 large military bases. The Geneva talks on eliminating medium-range missiles at some of these bases do not touch either the bombers or some nuclear munitions at U.S. military airfields and depots in the FRG, Britain, and other countries. But can our country really ignore this terrible danger? The Soviet Government vigilantly maintains its defense at a level at which it will always be able to parry this danger.

The editorial mail includes a letter from F. Morozov from Nalchik, who asks: "Why do British and French nuclear arms not come into discussions on eliminating medium-range missiles?" The author of another letter, Yu. Bondarenko, from Chita asks the same question: "So, we intend to destroy all of our missiles in the European part of the country which we keep there to be able to answer a first strike, while Britain and France, I hear, will continue to build up their own nuclear arsenal. Is the Soviet Union not laying itself open?"

Yes, these countries' 162 missiles are no plaything -- they are equipped with approximately 400 warheads and, what is more, work to modernize these nuclear missiles is in full swing. Two factors played a part, in my opinion, when the decision was taken not to take these missiles into account. First -- in an attempt to move the problem of nuclear disarmament in Europe from its chronic standstill, it was decided to make a major concession, even at the cost of taking a certain risk. Second -- the joint experience of developing the pan-European process nevertheless gives us grounds to trust....

These two mutually balanced factors, it seems to me, decided the matter. The degree of risk in making the concession not to count the British-French nuclear potential is compensated or, one could say, balanced out by our substantial trust in our partners from the anti-Hitler coalition -- a trust being made stronger by cooperation in the sphere of European detente. At the same time, when building its defense and its security system, our country will not discount the fact that London and Paris have their own nuclear arms. This is both logical and correct.

During the recent visit by W. Jaruzelski to Moscow, M.S. Gorbachev spoke of the need to observe the complex balance of interests, including the principle of parity in all arms parametres and at all stages in arms reduction. Achieving an agreement on this basis is a difficult process requiring great effort and political will. Our country has never been found wanting in either effort or will and it is again ready to go its part of the way. In my opinion, the world public is beginning to understand the need for the West to take some steps to meet us.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD031946 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 3 May 87

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Nikolay Ivanovich Agayants, foreign political commentator for All-Union Radio and Central Television; Gennadiy Arkadyevich Shishkin, first deputy general director of TASS; and Doctor of Historical Sciences Boris Dmitriyevich Dmitriyev, international affairs journalist]

[Text] [Agayants] Hello, comrades. Today we're meeting in a situation that seems to me, if not difficult, at least a little unusual. By that I mean that more than half of the week allotted to us for review falls at the end of April, while the rest is in May, and in holiday time. We will have to bear that in mind.

Colored by the scarlet hue of the proletarian flags and the red calico of the slogans and banners, the Day of International Solidarity of the Working People of the World passed, as in procession, across our planet. It demonstrated once again the indomitable strength of the unity of working people and their adamant will and determination to continue the struggle for their rights, for the triumph of peace and security, for democracy and social progress. Vivid, colorful and combative mass marches and displays, meetings and demonstrations dedicated to May Day took place in many parts of the world. The slogans under which they were held gave me the idea of structuring today's program in the following manner:

Let's go into the details of the problems of strengthening the internal and external positions of the fraternal socialist community, of the new peace initiatives of the USSR and the aspects of Soviet-U.S. relations arising from them, and of a few operational questions. If you don't object, I'll begin this discussion without further ado.

The past month has been rich in events of great importance, which have reflected, as in a mirror, the line our party and state are pursuing as a matter of priority in foreign policy -- namely, the course toward consolidating the developing the USSR's many-sided cooperation with the socialist countries. There were the Soviet-Bulgarian meetings and talks; the working state visit to the USSR of Wojciech Jaruzelski; and Comrade Ligachev's trip to Hungary. But there's is no doubt that the most vivid and important milestone in this respect has been -- and remains -- the official friendly visit to the CSSR of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which, as you'll remember, took place from 9 to 11 April, and to which, in our broadcasts and programs and in our "Latest News" bulletins on Mayak, we have been paying close attention.

You may wonder why we're returning to this event once again. The reason is that its significance goes far beyond the framework of Czechoslovak-Soviet relations, and that in the course of that visit -- I'm thinking above all of Comrade Gorbachev's speech at the meeting in Prague -- the general secretary set forth fundamental tenets of a theoretical and practical nature that are of importance for all the countries building socialism. They were further developed during the meetings and conversations that Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev had with Comrades Jaruzelski and Atanasov, and in Prague the new peace initiatives were unveiled that are today the focus of public attention throughout the world.

But let us take these things in their proper order. The whole history of socialism testifies, and testifies convincingly, that the working class invariably plays the leading role in social development.

So it was in the harsh trials of the class struggle and in the course of radical socioeconomic reforms; and so it is today, when the rapid growth of science and technology has led to a new situation in the historic competition between the two opposing systems. Working people want their lives to become better, spiritually richer and more just. This is the aim that actuates the policy of our parties, and it is toward this, as Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has said, that our course is oriented. The advance of the countries of our community on the path of accelerating their socioeconomic development also opens new possibilities for their all-round fruitful interaction. Here, it is important to see in time the rich reserves of cooperation and utilize them to the full for our mutual benefit.

During his visit to the CSSR, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev repeatedly emphasized the importance of developing cooperative ventures in industry and direct links between enterprises and scientific research institutes and other organizations in the socialist countries. Whatever the difficulties and problems we may encounter in doing this, the main thing is to be consistent and persistent in seeking and finding solutions to questions as they arise, on a basis of mutual advantage and striving for cooperation.

Gennadiy Arkadyevich, you were in Prague covering the visit of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee to the CSSR; I think you'll agree with me that this event has left a deep and indelible trace in the memory and in the hearts of millions of Czechs and Slovaks. Tell us about it, please, in more detail.

[Shishkin] Nikolay Ivanovich, I certainly still retain in my memory vivid pictures of Mikhail Sergeyevich's visit to Prague, which was an occasion of truly national rejoicing, and of the unfeigned enthusiasm with which the people of Prague welcomed our leader. I would say, too, that the visit has had a huge impact throughout the world -- particularly the very important and fundamental proposals Mikhail Sergeyevich put forward in his speech at the meeting in Prague.

What we're talking about, of course, is a very important step toward a nuclear-free Europe that the Soviet Union has suggested taking, and that has evoked a very big response throughout the world. In order that we may fully appreciate the constructive significance of our new initiatives, I would like to remind you that the United States disavowed its own zero option on medium-range missiles in Europe under the pretext that it had been linked in the Reykjavik package with other problems of nuclear disarmament. Yet when the Soviet Union untied that package by offering to decide at once, and separately, the question of abolishing the Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe, the United States and NATO straightaway linked this problem with the question of the Soviet operational and tactical missiles.

In view of the West's expressed concern about the problem of these missiles, and desiring to make it easier to conclude a medium-range missile agreement without delay, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev expressed willingness in Prague to solve this problem constructively also, without tying it to the progress and outcome of efforts to resolve the problem of medium-range missiles. With this aim, the Soviet Union proposed beginning discussion of the question of reducing and later eliminating missiles with a range of 500-1000 km sited on the continent of Europe. For the period of the talks, the sides would undertake not to increase the number of these missiles. That initiative was further continued and developed at the talks held between the Soviet leadership and U.S. Secretary of State Shultz in Moscow. During those talks, the Soviet side, again in view of the position of the West, went still further than what had been said in Prague, and proposed that operational and tactical missiles and battlefield missiles should also be abolished.

So we can see that the Soviet Union has demonstrated the maximum of goodwill and done everything to solve the problems of medium-range missiles; and if these were solved, this would, in turn, create better conditions for beginning a real process of stopping the nuclear arms race, reducing nuclear weapons and improving the international situation as a whole.

[Dmitriyev] The Soviet leadership in Moscow is attentively following the progress of discussion of matters connected with the Soviet proposals on medium-range missiles. Both in Washington and in other West European capitals of the NATO states, these proposals of ours are being discussed.

It must be said that the recent talks between the French and British prime ministers have made a noticeable mark on the European political landscape of late, and have been a prominent feature of it. The impression is that both in Paris and London they are more concerned about their nuclear privileges, which pay political rather than military dividends. It goes without saying that we allow neither the positive nor the negative statements about the Soviet proposals to pass unnoticed, and in this connection I would like to draw attention to an interview with U.S. Secretary of State Shultz recently broadcast to Western Europe, in which he tried to answer the question of how the security of the NATO states would be affected if the Soviet proposals were implemented. I must say that the secretary of state offered a number of considerations one can only agree with.

To begin with, the U.S. secretary of state drew attention in that radio interview to the fact that the Soviet proposals are about reducing those same Soviet medium-range missiles for the removal of which the NATO countries have been pressing all along, and against which, in the words of George Shultz, the deployment of the U.S. Pershing-2's and cruise missiles was originally undertaken. Now, says the U.S. secretary of state, we have before us the prospect of the elimination, on the Soviet side, of about 1,200 warheads on such missiles, and on the U.S. side, of 200 warheads on missiles already deployed [razvernutyy]. Of course we have to be cautious, said Shultz, but, he continued, the West should not be afraid to take "yes" for an answer to its own proposals.

[Shishkin] Boris Dmitriyevich, it would seem then, in light of what you have just been saying, that Western Europe ought to seize the new Soviet proposal with both hands. But in fact, what happens? The reaction among the ruling circles of NATO is quite different. Just as after Reykjavik, again their response is one of alarm and consternation.

[Dmitriyev] I would not put a final period here. I would suggest we might agree on this assessment of the Western reaction: In the Western capitals, in the Western governments, there is a process of acute struggle now going on over the Soviet proposals. Various points of view and various opinions are being expressed. And as yet there is no unified position. There is no unified position in Bonn, for example. In any case we don't yet know of any final and conclusive statement by Chancellor Kohl containing a final assessment of the Soviet initiatives. On the other hand, in those same West German political circles, there have been quite a few statements of a positive kind. Take, for instance, a number of statements by the Federal Republic's foreign minister, Genscher -- to say nothing of the Social Democrats. In short, summing up this part of our conversation, I would say that our Western opponents have not yet given their final answer. They are in the process of working out what stance they are going to adopt. We would like the answer they give in reply to our proposals to be positive.

[Agayants] Thanks to their responsible and realistic approach to the problems of war and peace, the socialist countries have won widespread recognition for their peace-loving proposals.

Occupying a special place among them is the concept of a fully comprehensive system of international security, the program for a nuclear-free world and abolition of all weapons of mass destruction. These, translated to the practical plane, are the Soviet proposals put forward at Reykjavik, and the program developed in the subsequent speeches by Comrade Gorbachev: notably in his speech at the Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship meeting at the Prague Palace of Culture. Those initiatives have been seen throughout the world as an embodiment of the new political thinking. They have opened a fundamentally new chapter in the struggle to remove the threat of a nuclear catastrophe -- the struggle for human survival.

So on 27 April, as you know, at the plenary session of the delegations at the latest round of the Soviet-U.S. talks being held in Geneva for the medium-range missile group, our side submitted a draft for a treaty between the USSR and the United States that would abolish the Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe and provide for other measures to limit and reduce the medium-range missiles of the USSR and United States. That step has been taken.

[Dmitriyev] Yes, our delegation has submitted its draft treaty to abolish the U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles [sredniye rakety] sited in Europe. The United States had earlier submitted its draft; so there are now two drafts on the table at the Geneva talks. The work of comparing particular provisions of these two documents has just begun. The work will, of course, be laborious and fairly slow, though it is our conviction that there is no reason it should not be completed in a very short space of time.

It should be said that our draft represents a compromise. It reflects a number of elements of the U.S. position, of the U.S. draft. Here, we are showing flexibility. For example, we accept the U.S. position on dividing medium-range missiles and launching facilities into deployed [razvernutyy] and undeployed missiles. We have adopted the U.S. approach on a gradual reduction of missile weapons. In short it is indeed a constructive and compromise document, which provides a way out to a speedy conclusion of the necessary agreement.

[Shishkin] Well then, Boris Dmitriyevich, how would you regard the varying positions that are now being expressed in the West in relation to the U.S. Pershing missiles? One could start, for instance, with the fact that General Rogers, the U.S. general who is commander in chief of NATO forces in Europe, has openly put forward a proposal and initiative, and is even insisting that the Pershings should not be eliminated, but that one of their stages be removed and they be transformed into operational and tactical missiles, and that, so to speak, negotiations should begin immediately about the level of these missiles.

There is another approach. For example, the West Germans, as is known, possess 72 Pershing-1 operational and tactical missiles. Indeed they do belong to the West Germans. They are U.S. missiles, but they have been purchased by the West Germans. However, the nuclear warheads on them remain American and they belong to the United States. Naturally, these missiles are just as much of a threat as all the rest, and one would think that they should be subject to the same restrictions and that all the provisions of a treaty on this class of weapon should extend to them too. But what claims are now being made by the U.S. side? It is saying: No, it is only a question of delivery vehicles and these belong to West Germany, that is, to a third country -- that is to say that there are no grounds to speak about these missiles. How would you comment on this standpoint?

[Dmitriyev] Our draft agreement provides for many of the points you have mentioned, Gennadiy Arkadyevich. In particular, unlike the U.S. draft, which provides for the possibility of modernizing and transforming missiles of greater capacity into ones of less capacity, our Soviet draft definitively says: No, conversions and transformations of Pershing-2 missiles into missiles of shorter range are impermissible. All medium-range missiles currently located in Europe must go under the knife, to put it crudely. They must be dismantled and destroyed. In short, in the Soviet draft all problems are to be solved in full accordance with the aims of lowering the level of nuclear confrontation in Europe, and indeed throughout the world.

[Agayants] Well, all that we have already said here is fresh evidence that the new political thinking, which is characteristic of our state at present, is having a colossal influence on the processes taking place throughout the world. This new thinking on international problems and the restructuring taking place in the foreign-policy activities of our state have naturally not gone unnoticed in the West. Our ideological opponents are reacting to this in different ways. There is a very wide-ranging scale of attitudes towards the processes taking place in our country. Some people are not averse to pouring abuse on us and slandering us. However, more and more frequently abuse and out and out anti-Sovietism are being replaced by attempts to analyze soberly the existing situation, understand it, and find ways for contacts and a joint solution of key problems.

In this context I think that an article by Mortimer Zuckerman, editor in chief of the weekly U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, is indicative. The article was carried in the 27 April edition of the magazine. After beginning by reiterating a selection of stereotyped phrases about our society being some sort of totalitarian regime, about some mythical expansionist policy on the part of the USSR and about the fact that the United States allegedly fears not only a nuclear war with the Soviet Union but also its peaceful imperial intentions, as the text of the article put it, Zuckerman goes on to say that an important new fact in present day international relations has been -- and I quote -- the entry upon the stage of the charming and energetic Gorbachev and his circle, people who have brought fresh thinking, fresh ideas and a new openness. This, the magazine notes, instills the hope that important accords will be achieved and that a solution of the arms race problems will be discussed in a spirit of the motto "Live and let live!" Well, let us leave this overly free-and-easy motto to the conscience of the author. What is symptomatic to my mind is the fact that even U.S. ruling circles are now giving more and more serious thought to the issue of how to go on living and what to do to achieve at least some kind of accords and to finally get some movement in solving all the explosive problems that have accumulated. It would be a fine thing if correct words were followed by correct deeds.

[Shishkin] Nikolay Ivanovich, I think that from this viewpoint another very important factor is that the USSR's consistent and very concrete and principled struggle for disarmament is now beginning to enjoy mounting support not just in Western Europe but in the United States too. Americans are more and more frequently rebuffing the Pentagon's militarist intrigues. As just one example I should like to cite the opinion of Halperin, director of the Center for National Security Studies, who literally stated the following: The U.S. military doctrine, he said, is based on the extremely erroneous and dangerous supposition that it is possible to wage nuclear war and achieve victory. Halperin goes on to say that the U.S. military and political leadership, in drawing up its strategic plans, is counting on being able to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and in this connection he emphatically rejects this, as he put it, criminal and suicidal doctrine, which, he says, threatens the whole of world civilization with destruction.

Here is another American scientist, (Berkovich), a specialist from the New York World Politics Institute; He came up with a sharp exposure of the Pentagon's myth about the Soviet threat. Here is what he wrote: Many specialists in the field of defense regard the idea of the USSR's overpowering superiority in terms of conventional weapons as a myth that is being irresponsibly spread by the unscrupulous media and by the Defense Department, which is trying to get its budget increased. Sentiments like these have become so widespread in the United States that the White House is forced to take them into account.

Take for example Reagan's latest radio address on the issues of Soviet-U.S. relations. He noted in it, I quote, that today the United States and the Soviet Union have an opportunity to achieve, step by step, a palpable, gradual progress on the way toward strengthening peace in the world. I think, at present, it is difficult to say yet whether the United States is really prepared to go its part of the distance toward a nuclear-free Europe or whether the optimistic pronouncements now coming from Washington are nothing more than a forced gesture to calm those who demand a constructive reply from the White House to the Soviet initiatives.

[Dmitriyev] Well, let us at the moment refrain from jumping to final deductions and conclusions on what is going on in the leadership of the United States and other NATO states. But you, Gennadiy Arkadyevich, are absolutely right in the sense that certain new thoughts and new trends have been cropping up lately within the leadership of the United States and NATO countries, and, first of all, in connection with our initiatives on the liquidation of missiles. We have, of course, no intention to go into detail about the internal affairs of the North Atlantic bloc or get involved in analyzing relations between the United States and its West European allies; one cannot fail, however, to notice the judiciously balanced, and one might say, sensible character, of certain statements now being made in Washington. It seems there is movement in the right direction and the conversations and discussions that took place in the course of the recent Soviet-U.S. talks in Moscow when Secretary of State Shultz visited our capital have not been wasted.

[Agayants] I would like to draw your attention, comrades, to one more fact. In accordance with an agreement that has been reached, another conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee will take place at the end of May this year, in Berlin.

[Dmitriyev] There is no doubt that the forthcoming conference of the Political Consultative Committee will become an event of great international significance. The allied fraternal socialist states are now coordinating their foreign political activity more and more. Practically not a single major international decision is now made without harmonizing and unifying our efforts. The collective possibilities of the Warsaw Pact organization are being effectively used in the interests of the consolidation of European and universal peace.

Let us recall that at the previous conference of the Political Consultative Committee that took place in 1986 in Budapest, an enormously important program for reducing the confronting armed forces of the Warsaw Pact and NATO member states was put forward. Of course, we do not know at the moment the agenda of the forthcoming conference of the Political Consultative Committee in Berlin, but there is no doubt that the most essential and key problems of the current international situation will be submitted for discussion by the leaders of the allied countries.

Of late, this detailed and profound conversation concerning issues and problems of that sort has been going on continuously. In connection with our proposals on the liquidation of medium-range missiles, thorough consultations have been held with our allies. To begin with, this issue was discussed during Comrade Jaruzelski's visit to Moscow. After that special representatives of the Soviet leadership visited Berlin, Prague, Sofia, Budapest and Bucharest. Comrade Bessmertnykh, deputy minister of USSR foreign affairs, met leaders of the GDR and Czechoslovakia in Berlin and Prague, for example. Comrade Loginov, deputy minister of foreign affairs, visited other allied states. And everywhere our proposals were met with utmost and firm support by our allies; in all the allied capitals, approval for our far-reaching initiatives in the international arena was voiced.

[Agayants] I think, we will close today's talks on this optimistic note. Our program's time is up. Thank you, comrades, for listening to us, and all the best to you.

TOLKUNOV MEETS ORTEGA AT IPU CONFERENCE

PM011325 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting with D. Ortega"]

[Text] Managua, 30 Apr -- The visiting USSR Parliamentary Group delegation headed by L.N. Tolkunov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group, met Wednesday with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega.

At the meeting the head of the Soviet delegation set out the Soviet leadership's foreign policy measures aimed at reducing the level of nuclear tension and eliminating regional conflicts. The entire will of the Soviet people and Government, L.N. Tolkunov stressed, is focused on achieving concrete results in its peace offensive and creating favorable conditions for peaceful creation.

D. Ortega highly assessed Soviet peace initiatives, which accord with present-day requirements. Through its constructive proposals, he noted, the Soviet Union has laid the cornerstone in the creation of a nuclear-free world. The Soviet initiatives are supported worldwide. The peoples expect Washington to show readiness to follow the line of disarmament proposed by the Land of the Soviets.

D. Ortega conveyed very best wishes from the Sandinista Front and the Nicaraguan people and Government to the Soviet people and Government.

The meeting discussed the progress of the 77th IPU conference under way in Managua. The Soviet side stressed that the holding of this important international forum in the Nicaraguan capital attests to the world public's extensive recognition of the Sandinist revolution's growing contribution to the peoples' overalll struggle to achieve peace, security, and cooperation.

V.I. Vyalyas, USSR ambassador to Nicaragua, took part in the meeting.

Urges Nuclear-Free World

LD011449 Moscow TASS in English 1106 GMT 1 May 87

[Text] Managua May 1 TASS -- Lev Tolkunov, leader of the Soviet delegation to the 77th conference to the Interparliamentary Union here, has said that the formidable realities of the nuclear age make it imperative for all politicians and statesmen, including MP's, to take a fresh look at international relations and adopt a new approach to solving urgent problems.

Tolkunov, who is chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, was addressing a full-scale sitting of the conference Thursday.

"The absurd and immoral situation where mankind's fate turns on the nuclear 'balance of terror' must give way to comprehensive security," he stressed.

"The basis of life in a nuclear-free world must be mutual understanding and trust," he added.

The leader of the Soviet delegation pointed to the need to give up the fatal delusion which was dangerous for all mankind, that a nation could enhance its security by building up arms and developing new weapons systems.

"The problem of security is basically a political rather than a technical problem and can only be resolved by political means," he explained.

Tolkunov also emphasized the need to adopt practical and immediate disarmament measures through agreements for doing away with all nuclear weapons by century's end, bar any arms from outer space as the common property of mankind, outlaw chemical weapons, destroy their stocks, reduce conventional arms and armed forces, and scrap medium-range missiles in Europe in a linkage with shorter-range missiles.

"We are prepared to eliminate also battlefield nuclear weapons," he said.

The Soviet Union, he continued, was consistently pressing along with efforts concerning the whole gamut of issues discussed and in a large measure agreed upon in Reykjavik.

On behalf of the parlimentary group of the USSR, Tolkunov expressed solidarity with the courageous and rightful struggle by the Nicaraguan people to defend their sovereignty, independence and right to self-determination.

"A Central American settlement can and must be achieved by the efforts of Latin American nations on a basis of accords worked out as part of the Contadora process," he said.

"We are witnessing a complicated, crucial and remarkable time when nations are learning the difficult but vital art of living in peace with one another," the leader of the Soviet delegation went on to say.

"Our duty as parliamentarians is to do everything we can to assist the yet unprecedented process of a moral and political recovery of sight by millions of people," he stressed.

Conference Ends

LD031306 Moscow TASS in English 1143 GMT 3 May 87

[Text] Managua May 3 TASS -- The 77th conference of the Interparliamentary Union ended here. It was attended by delegations from 86 countries.

The final document of the forum expressed serious concern over the aggravation of the situation in Central America. The crisis in that explosive area should be overcome by a peaceful way. The Contadora Group, the support group and the entire international community declare for this strongly and consistently.

The parliamentarians declared for an early signing of the act of peace and cooperation in Central America worked out by the Contadora Group. They noted that Nicaragua is a victim of the United Staes aggressive interventionist policy, that it is subjected to diplomatic, economic and political pressure by Washington. It is only by ending armed interference, on the basis of withdrawal of all military advisors from the territories adjoining Nicaragua that the regional crisis can be overcome.

The document emphasizes that non-interference in internal affairs of sovereign countries, territorial integrity and respect for human rights must be the fundamental principles for resolving all conflicts. In this connection the participants in the conference demanded that the United States end military exercises in Central America and implement the decisions of the United Nations International Court in the Hague demanding an end to assistance to contra's gangs.

Touching upon the Middle East situation, delegates noted that the situation in that troubled area has been aggravating over decades through the fault of Israel which continues occupying Arab territories. Noting that the armed conflict in the region threatens universal peace and security the parliamentarians emphasized the need to convene an international conference on the settlement of the Middle East conflict. The participants should include the United Nations Organization, Syria, Egypt, the Palestine Liberation Organization, the USSR and the USA, as well as other permanent members of the Security Council. It is stressed in the document that the crisis must be settled through unconditional withdrawal of all Israeli troops from occupied Arab territories, respect for the lawful right of the Palestinian people to self determination and independence and creation of its own state.

The participants in the forum urged Iran and Iraq to terminate the farmed conflict on the basis of a peaceful, equitable and mutually-acceptable solution, and declared in favour of turning the Mediterranean into a zone of peace, security and cooperation.

NATO ARMADA 'CHALLENGE' TO CANARY ISLANDS

LD301921 Moscow TASS in English 1651 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Text] Madrid April 30 TASS -- TASS correspondent Robert Serebrennikov reports:

The Canary Islands' anti-NATO commissions described as "an obvious provocation" the stay of a NATO naval armada in the port of Las Palmas.

The armada includes eight ships of NATO member countries, including the United States, Britain, FRG, Belgium and Canada. This naval group is engaged in combat patrolling in the Atlantic Ocean.

The stay of the NATO armada in Las Palmas is a challenge to the population of the Canary Islands, which at a referendum declared against Spain's participation in the North Atlantic bloc, the anti-NATO committees say in their statement.

U.S. NUCLEAR EXPLOSION IN NEVADA REPORTED

LD301507 Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Text] Washington April 30 TASS -- An underground nuclear explosion was detonated at the Nevada test site today. A spokesman for the test site information service told TASS that its yield was between 20 and 150 kilotons.

According to the spokesman, the test, code-named Hardin, was connected with armaments.

The latest explosion in Nevada was the United States' 6th officially announced nuclear test this year.

REAGAN REMARKS ON ARMS REDUCTION, SDI CITED

LD011347 Moscow TASS in English 1321 GMT 1 May 87

[Text] Washington May 1 TASS -- The exchanges that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz had in Moscow "increase prospects for an interim agreement on intermediate nuclear forces," President Reagan said Thursday.

In the President's written responses to questions submitted by the newspaper "ASAHI SHIMBUN" and released by the White House Reagan noted, however, that there remained in that area "important outstanding issues to be resolved, particularly on shorter-range intermediate nuclear force and verification."

The head of the Washington administration said the United States was "consulting intensively" with its allies in Europe and Asia, including Japan, on these issues.

In an interview with the Japanese newspaper he reiterated the current U.S. Administration's commitment to the "Star Wars" programms.

REAGAN INTERVIEWED ON GENEVA ARMS TALKS

PM011229 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Apr 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS dispatch: "Reagan Interview"]

[Text] Washington, 29 Apr -- U.S. President R. Reagan granted an interview to a group of U.S. journalists on Tuesday in the course of which he was asked a number of questions concerning the administration's position in respect to its main objectives in the talks with the Soviet Union on the achievement of an agreement on the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe. The President's attention was in particular drawn to a recent statement by Secretary of State G. Shultz on his return from Moscow to the effect that "We should take the Russians at face value when they say they are talking seriously about arms control because they want a less threatening and less nuclear world."

R. Reagan assured the journalists that the United States was ready to negotiate with the Soviet Union although, as he said, "this does not mean that you don't insist on verification [proverka] and the safeguards we (that is the United States -- TASS) must have in such an agreement or treaty."

Replying to a question about differences within the administration on the question of a medium-range missile agreement he said: "I encourage different opinions because I have to make decisions. I make them on the basis of everything I hear from those who counsel me. But when I make a final decision they must implement it regardless of whether they consider it correct or not."

COMMENTATOR ON REAGAN WEEKLY RADIO ADDRESS

LD031821 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 3 May 87

[Text] Reagan, President of the United States, has made another regular radio address to the country. He devoted it to the federal budget and tried to explain to Americans the reasons for the growing budget deficit. Here is a latest news commentry. At the microphone is Igor Charikov:

[Charikov] The idea of making a radio address to his countrymen is one that belongs to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who considered it essential to inform the public regularly about different aspects of his domestic and foreign policy. As things turned out, this tradition, which was laid down in the 1930's, was subsequently forgotten, only to be revived in our own day by President Carter. Addressing the voters by radio and television, however, did not help him to hold on to their support and maintain his popularity.

Something similar is happening now. Americans, if one is to judge by the public opinion polls, have lost interest in their President's broadcasts, for a process in which confidence in executive authority is falling steadily is taking place in the United States.

Nevertheless, each Saturday the President does address his fellow citizens, trying to convince them, encouraging them, sometimes frightening them, but for the most part trying to justify himself. He tried this time to place the whole blame for the mess with the federal budget at the feet of Congress, which, in his own words, was refusing to maintain budgetary discipline and putting expenditure levels too high, at the same time ignoring promises to the American people. A serious complaint, one must say, and to some extent justified, but neverthless complete responsibility for allocating national income and for the growth in the budget deficit and the national debt is borne by the administration.

In accusing the legislators of setting the expenditure side of the budget at too high a level and of ignoring the interests of the people the President is behaving in a sly way, for it is not his administration that year after year during the past 6 years, has demanded from Congress ever more and larger sums for the development and improvement of armaments, including the fabulously expensive "Star Wars" program? It is not his administration that has at the same time demanded that allocations for social programs be reduced?

Allocation of Federal resources in such an unbalanced way leads to serious consequences. One billion dollars invested in the public education system creates 187,290 jobs. The same billion handed over to the military monopolies ensures work for a mere 75,710 working pople. For each billion, more than 100,000 jobs are lost. Altogether the administration has asked Congress for 312 billion for military expenditure next year.

So it turns out that the interests of Americans are being ignored by the administration itself, which has set itself the goal of securing military superiority in order to implement its neo-globalist aspirations.

REAGAN COMMENTS ON CONTRAS, ECONOMY NOTED

LD011010 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2125 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Text] Washington, 1 May (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports: During the campaign for the November 1988 Presidential elections now underway in the United States, President Reagan addressed members of the Republican Party at a fund-raising dinner.

Touching on questions of foreign policy, Reagan, with regard to the Soviet-U.S. talks on medium-range missiles in Europe, noted the "indisputable progress" that had been made toward "reducing nuclear arms that threaten mankind." At the same time, he claimed that the "defense of peace is one of the United States' main goals in international affairs," but it is clear from what the President said that he believes peace can be defended first and foremost with the help of the "Strategic Defense Initiative," which is known to envisage a new and most dangerous spiral in the nuclear arms race and its transfer to outer space.

Later, and in loftier tones, the President spoke of the United States as a "torch-bearer of freedom" for the whole world. According to Reagan, by waging and inflaming undeclared wars against Nicaragua, Afghanistan, and Angola, the United States is bringing not destruction and suffering, but freedom. He cited letters sent to him by the heads of the anti-Nicaraguan contras assuring him that they "would neither let down" the boss of the White House, personally, nor the American people in general. It is quite likely that some of the people who wrote those letters are indeed members of the Somoza gangs who recently in Nicaragua killed U.S. engineer Benjamin Linder, who had gone there to help that country's people conduct a peaceful economic policy.

Dwelling on the administration's domestic policy, Reagan said the "Republicans are proud of their achievements in the economy." Among those achievements, the President claimed, was the "constant growth in the rate of economic development" and the "reduction of poverty in the country over the last 2 years."

However, none of these claims stand up to reality. For the umpteenth time, the country's economic growth rate has remained at the level of 2 to 2.5 percent annually. Under the present administration, the United States has changed from a creditor country into a debtor country. The national debt exceeds $2 trillion. The U.S. trade balance deficit is approaching the $200 billion mark, and what particularly alarms many U.S. specialists is the fact that new jobs in the country are mainly in the nonmanufacturing, low salary sector. In the basic core of the economy -- the processing and extracting industries -- there has been an increase in unemployment; and factories, works, and mines are closing. The number of unemployed people in the country, according to even the obviously artifically reduced official figures, is more than 7 million.

The country is consuming its basic capital, says a report to the U.S. Congress by Seymour Melman, a well-known economist and professor at Colombia University. As far as "reducing the poverty level" is concerned, then here, too, statistics refute the President. According to BUSINESS WEEK magazine, in the period from 1973 to 1984 real wages in the United States declined by 8.7 percent, whereas the number of families living below the official poverty line went up from 11 to 14 percent of the overall population figure.

NAKASONE CONCLUDES TALKS WITH U.S. LEADERS

LD020907 Moscow TASS in English 0810 GMT 2 May 87

[Text] Washington May 2 TASS -- TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev reports:

Two-day talks between President Reagan and other leaders of the U.S. Administration with Japan's Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, on an official visit in the United States, were concluded in the White House on Friday.

The head of the U.S. Administration said that the Japanese prime minister had been informed of the situation at the Soviet-U.S. talks on medium-range nuclear weapons. Preparations for the coming summit of the seven major capitalist countries, to be held in Venice, were set out in detail.

As President Reagan said, trade between the United States and Japan had been "an area of heavy discussion." The President of the United States emphasized that despite the calls of the Japanese prime minister, the United States was so far not going to lift its economic sanctions against Japan. President Reagan said that the U.S. Administration had merely agreed to consider again the state of affairs of the U.S.-Japanese trade in mid-May. The CNN television network stated that Nakasone is going home without securing a promise that the sanctions will be lifted immediately.

In his speech in the White House, the Japanese prime minister warned that the current differences between the United States and Japan in the area of trade are fraught with serious consequences for the health of world economy. Speaking later in the National Press Club, Nakasone pointed out that trade differences had escalated into a serious problem which could threaten the foundations of relations between the two countries.

Despite the acuteness of trade contradictions, however, both sides emphasized in every way the community of goals and complete harmony of U.S.-Japanese relations in the military-political area. The Japanese prime minister declared for the further strengthening of military ties of the two countries.

U.S. MOUNTING 'ECONOMIC ONSLAUGHT' AGAINST JAPAN

LD021640 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 2 May 87

[Text] The Japanese press is giving appreciable coverage to a police raid on the headquarters of the machine-building firm, Toshiba, accused by U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger of undermining U.S. security. Newspapers note that the raid coincided with Prime Minister Nakasone's visit to the United States, and with an unprecedented worsening of Japanese-U.S. trade and economic relations. Vladimir Pasko comments:

If the press is to be believed, Toshiba angered Weinberger by selling us, the year before last, several machine tools having numerical program control. The Americans claim that these tools can be used to machine the screws of submarines. I don't know whether that's true or not, but the accusation is ludicrous. We produced submarines before 1985 -- quite good ones too, as the Americans themselves acknowledge. A former official at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, (John Kaiser), who was engaged in finding out about technical advances in the USSR for U.S. firms, stated in THE WASHINGTON POST in 1980 that our submarines were the fastest in the world. So the ground chosen by Weinberger for attacks on Toshiba are unconvincing.

I would add, moreover, that the deal concluded by Toshiba for the sale of machine tools to us was approved by Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry, which is a member of the notorious U.S.-controlled COCOM -- the Coordinating Committee for the Control of Exports to the Socialist Countries.

The reason for the attacks on Toshiba, which is now threatened with forfeiture of its right to export, lies in the unconcealed desire of the United States to undermine the Japanese economy. Japan is now a major competitor of the United States. While the United States ended last year with the world's largest foreign trade deficit -- $169 billion -- Japan concluded it with the largest surplus -- $83 billion. Washington is now mounting an all-out offensive against the Japanese economy, which involves a drive to curtail its trade with the socialist countries, primarily the Soviet Union. Among the Western countries, Japan occupies fourth place as regards trade with us. According to the newspaper NIHON KEIZAI, Washington is also insisting, specifically, that Japan should decide not to expand the import of Soviet coal, but to increase coal purchases from the United States.

According to Japanese newspapers, the country's business circles are voicing apprehension over the possiblity that the so-called Toshiba affair will become a precedent for attacks on other companies that are developing business ties with the Soviet Union. The TOKYO SHIMBUN says: Businessmen think that the United States is using the current incident as material for the latest economic onslaught against Japan. The apprehension is justified. It's a pity, though, that the Japanese Government has no wish to see what is perfectly plain to the country's business circles.

U.S. OFFICIALS WEIGH CHANCES OF NUCLEAR-FREE WORLD

PM301541 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Apr 87 First Edition p 6

[Correspondent G. Vasilyev article: "Is a Nuclear-Free World Possible? -- Discussion in U.S. Magazine"]

[Text] New York -- Is a nuclear-free world possible? -- this, the supreme question of our time, is increasingly occupying the minds of thoughtful Americans and arousing keen debates among scientists, politicians, clergymen, and broad public circles. People's alarm over mankind's future, threatened by a Sword of Damocles in the form of weapons of mass destruction, is the catalyst of the discussions.

These broadening debates are reflected in a selection of articles published in the latest issue of THE NEW YORK TIMES Magazine under the headline "A World Without Nuclear Weapons?"

M. Bundy: former national security adviser to the U.S. President, gives an unequivocal answer to this question: "Yes, it is possible." And not only possible, he believes, but also necessary unless mankind wishes to die. The author supports the main provision of the accords reached by the USSR and U.S. leaders in Reykjavik -- the two countries' commitment to strive for a world without nuclear weapons -- and expresses regret that a historic opportunity was missed because of the U.S. side's reluctance to abandon its plans for the deployment of weapons in space.

"Common interest," Bundy states, "demands that we not abandon the long and difficult efforts aimed at achieving constructive arms control agreements... The truth for both sides is that reliable and stabilizing agreements are immeasurably better than unlimited rivalry." [paragraph continues]

Bundy supports the Soviet proposal on the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe, although he also considers it more important to secure a radical reduction in strategic offensive armaments and the abandonment of the preparation for "Star Wars," as the Soviet Union so persistently urges too.

The main apologist of the arms race in the magazine is the physicist E. Teller, well known as the "father of the H-bomb." It is unrealistic to believe that talks can guarantee the elimination of nuclear weapons," he peremptorily states.

The arguments used by the "father of the H-bomb" present a picture of a man who conceives of no type of relations among peoples other than those based on the big stick, which in our age is the nuclear missile. There is another striking feature of his arguments: the fundamental dishonesty of this man who bears the title of scientist. Teller engages in outright deception: He tries to intimidate Americans by referring to the "U.S. lag behind the USSR: and presents an artificial picture of an ABM system allegedly created in the Soviet Union. And the aim of all this is to "sell" Washington's SDI program to the public.

Z. Brzezinski, also a former national security adviser to the U.S. President, puts forward a different line of "defense" against a nuclear-free world. He tries to prove that a world without weapons will be more dangerous than one which is armed. This veteran anti-Sovietist tries to frighten Americans by saying that "the Kremlin may secretly stockpile nuclear weapons" and asserts that Moscow's peace initiatives are aimed solely at "disarming the West." "All this rivalry in sloganeering about a nonnuclear utopia which began so unthinkingly after Reykjavik," he says irately, "may frighten the Western public away from seeking true strategic security." But "true security," according to Brzezinski, consists in better armaments and improved military strategy.

Hatred guides the pens of Teller and Brzezinski. A hatred of socialism so powerful and blinding that they are prepared to sacrifice everything on the altar of anticommunism, even the lives of millions of their fellow citizens, and to destroy all life on our planet.

These articles in this U.S. magazine reflect the complex processes taking place in the public consciousness in the United States, where a confrontation is in progress between the new thinking and the old militarist dogmatism based on "strength," which still paralyzes a considerable proportion of politicians and strategists here.

U.S. TROOPS MASS FOR EXERCISES IN HONDURAS

LD040837 Moscow TASS in English 0803 GMT 4 May 87

[Text] New York May 4 TASS -- U.S. troops who will participate in the next few days in regular provocative war games in the direct proximity to the Nicaraguan border, started massing on the shore of the American state of North Carolina. A Marine Brigade boarded landing vessels. The 101st Airborne Division, U.S. warships and other strike units of the Rapid Deployment Force were put on full alert. All in all, over 40,000 U.S. and Honduran troops will participate in these war games to start on May 13 under the code name "Solid Shield" and will actually embrace the entire Caribbean. A Pentagon spokesman said that the scenario of the exercise provided for landing a party on the northern shore of Honduras, some 160 kilometres away from the Nicaraguan border and "exploiting the offensive" in the country's hinterland.

Provision is also made for checking "readiness for combat operations" of U.S troops stationed at the Guantanamo base on Cuba. Commenting on the coming war games, the American press points out that in the past they were repeatedly used by the U.S. military for hatching armed invasions of states whose policy was not to Washington's liking. Newspapers point out that the present exercise "Solid Shield" is becoming especially sinister in the light of the Reagan administration's clear intention to overthrow the Nicaraguan revolutionary government.

WHITE HOUSE TO SEEK ADDITIONAL AID FOR CONTRAS

LD021529 Moscow TASS in English 1448 GMT 2 May 87

[Text] Washington May 2 TASS -- The White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said Friday that the administration intended to ask Congress in summer for additional funds for assistance to groups of contras with whose hands Washington is trying to topple the Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

The spokesman made it clear that the matter at hand was a new request for a sum from 105 to 125 million dollars. It is to be discussed on Capitol Hill next August or September.

Fitzwater emphasized that the persisting "Irangate" scandal which had made public many illegal operations to supply weapons to the contras had no effect at all on the White House's support for the Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries.

SOVIET, U.S. FARMERS BUILD AUTOMATED DAIRY FARM

LD211852 Moscow TASS in English 0831 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS -- A fully automated dairy farm for 400 cows started operating in the village of Shchapovo [name as received] near Moscow. It was established under an unprecedented joint Soviet-American project.

Participants in the project -- the USSR State Committee for the Agro-Industrial Complex and the firms Babson Brothers and Ipatco (USA) -- supplied the farm with two sets of complete equipment, Soviet and American ones, including a milking installation, automatic feeders, a computer with software and a system of milk processing and storing.

The system's distinguishing feature is an "electronic brain" and an electromagnetic system identifying every cow. The computer compiles a ration and indicates the quantity of forage needed to produce milk in accordance with maximum genetic abilities of each cow.

According to estimates, the Shchapovo farm will need 60 tons less fodder than under conventional technology, and milk yields will grow by 10-15 percent.

In case experiments are successful and new types of equipment are developed, Babson Brothers is ready to hold talks on co-production and agreed export of the machinery to the world market, said Nicholas Babson, head and owner of the U.S. firm, at the opening ceremony. The Soviet Union could manufacture and process metal structures and a part of milking equipment and the firm -- computer gadgets and electronic measuring equipment. If cooperation with Soviet partners develops successfully, a joint venture could be set up, the U.S. businessman said.

USSR 'SINCERELY HOPES' FOR BETTER PRC-SRV TIES

OW010958 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1500 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Mulatov commentary]

[Text] Twelve years have elapsed since the liberation of South Vietnam and the overthrow by the Vietnamese people of the puppet Saigon regime that depended on U.S. imperialism for its existence. The following is a commentary by station commentator Mulatov:

Every Vietnamese patriot keeps firmly in mind this famous remark by Ho Chi Minh: Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom.

As you know, the Vietnamese people had carried out a protracted, arduous struggle in order to achieve independence and freedom. The puppet pro-U.S. regime in South Vietnam was overthrown 12 years ago, which was the final phase of the Vietnamese people's armed struggle for national liberation. After driving away U.S. interventionists and their lackeys, the Vietnamese people started building a unified socialist country. Before winning victory over the U.S. aggressors, the Vietnamese people had also waged a protracted struggle against the French colonialists. We should not forget that the Vietnamese had also waged a struggle against Japanese militarism as the Chinese people had.

I think that people can understand why opposing foreign rule and interference, striving for national independence, and trying to take one's destiny into one's own hands have become part of the national will of the Vietnamese people.

The Vietnamese people are aware of and highly appraised the all-out aid the Soviet Union, China, and other socialist counties provided them during the years of their struggle against imperialist aggression. Unified socialist Vietnam treasures its friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and sincerely hopes [zhencheng xiwang] to normalize its relations with China. It is pointed out in a document of the Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] held last December: The friendly relations between the Vietnamese and Chinese people have a long history. They always supported each other, opposed imperialism, and strove for independence and freedom.

The Sixth CPV Congress fairly pointed out: The common destiny of the Chinese and Vietnamese people (?is far more important than) the differences between the two countries.

Like the Chinese people, the Vietamese people attach great importance to safeguarding peace, independence, and economic development. The Soviet Union sincerely hopes that Sino-Vietnamese relations will be normalized and that the two countries will resume their good-neighborly relations, which will become an important factor in strengthening peace and the position of socialism in Southeast Asia and other parts of Asia.

PAPER OUTLINES PRC 1986 ECONOMIC RESULTS

PM301053 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 17, Apr 87 (Signed to Press 16 Apr 87) p 20

[Article by Candidate of Economic Sciences V. Portyakov: "The PRC's Economy in 1986"]

[Text] PRC State Statistical Administration figures on the results of the country's socioeconomic development in 1986 have been published in the Chinese press. [paragraph continues]

It is noted that last year it was necessary on the one hand to start realizing the large-scale goals and guidelines of the Seventh 5-Year Plan for the country's economic and social development (1986-1990) and, on the other, to continue overcoming a number of negative tendencies in economic life manifested acutely in 1984-1985. These include an imbalance in the economy, an increasing volume of capital construction, especially outside the budtet, an increased gap between aggregate social demand and supply, accelerated prices increases in the consumer goods and means of production spheres, a deterioration in certain indicators of economic effectiveness, and others.

As the State Statistical Administration data attest, in 1986 China managed on the whole to somewhat strengthen the stability and balance of the national economy's development and to ensure a definite improvement in the structure of industrial production. Compared with 1985 the country's national income increased 7.4 percent and industry's gross output (taking into account all agricultural industry) increased 11.1 percent. Light industry developed more rapidly than heavy industry.

The 4.6-percent increase in oil extraction to 131 million tonnes, the 8.5-percent increase in electricity generation to 445.5 billion kilowatt-hours, and also the stabilization of coal extraction at 870 million tonnes made it possible to somewhat alleviate the strained situation as regards the supply of fuel and energy for the national economy. The provision ot rolled metal improved. Some 40.5 million tonnes of rolled metal were produced, which is 9.8 percent more than the previous year. Cement production increased 10.7 percent, exceeding 161 million tonnes. At the same time production decreased in a number of manufacturing sectors -- automobile production decreased 15.6 percent, machine tool production 5.1 percent, and television production 13.2 percent.

The State Statistical Administration notes that the trend toward declining economic efficiency in industry was not arrested. The number of enterprises running at a loss increased, prime cost of output has risen, and quality has remained unstable. In this situation more active use began to be made of the method of transferring small state industrial enterprises to contract work or lease to individuals and collectives. By the end of the year 8 percent of such enterprises were operating under these conditions.

Agricultural production increased 3.5 percent. Meat production (pork, beef, and mutton) increased 9 percent, to reach 19.2 million tonnes. The tea and fruit harvests increased.

Grain crops were the object of special concern in 1986. The sown areas were somewhat expanded. The grain producers were actively encouraged by supplies of chemical fertilizers and diesel fuel at fixed prices. Thanks to this the grain harvest (including soybeans and also sweet potatoes and potatoes in a ratio of 5 to 1, in grain equivalent) increased 12 million tonnes to reach 391 million tonnes as against the planned 400 million tonnes.

Chinese economists voice the opinion that the comparitively easily mobilized reserves in the country's agriculture are by now exhausted and that it will not be possible in the future to maintain such high growth rates as in 1979-1985. In addition, the reform of the system of agricultural purchases, especially the switch to contract purchases of grain, is still underemployed in practice, held up by the relative unprofitability of grain production for the peasants and the undeveloped system of distribution in the countryside. Because of this, the PRC State Council has adopted a decision on additional incentives for the sale of grain to the state within the contract framework in exchange for return deliveries of chemical fertilizers and fuel (6 kg of fertilizer and 3 kg of diesel fuel for every 100 kig of grain).

The proportion of funds channeled into the retooling of enterprises, power generation, and transport has increased. But on the whole, despite a reduction in the growth of investments in fixed capital, the scale of investment activity remains extremely high. Altogether 163,000 publicly owned installations, including 922 major and medium installations, are currenty being constructed or modernized. Since the start of 1987 a routine check of installations under construction has been in progress in the country with a view to narrowing the front of capital construction.

Judging by the statistics, the material position of PRC working people improved in 1986. Thus, the real average wage of workers and employees increased 8.4 percent, while peasants' incomes (based on the results of selected surveys) increased 3.2 percent. The unfavorable correlation was maintained between income growth and labor productivity, which increased only 4 percent in industry and 2.7 percent in construction.

Retail price increases were quite high again in 1986 -- which provokes negative reaction among the country's population.

According to customs statistics, the PRC's foreign trade commodity turnover increased 6.1 percent in 1986 to reach $73.8 billion. Exports increased 13.1 percent to reach $30.9 billion, whereas imports increased 1.6 percent to reach $42.9 billion. For nontrade payments China had a positive balance in foreign currency of around $3.8 billion. At the end of September 1986 the PRC's foreign debt totaled $6.9 billion.

In 1986 foreign capital continued to be attracted into the PRC economy. A number of new legislative documents were adopted designed to assist the creation of more favorable investment conditions for foreign investors of capital. Foreign capital currently participates in more than 7,700 Chinese enterprises of various types (mixed, shared production, or based totally on foreign capital).

Judging by the materials of recent all-China conferences, the slogan of "increasing production on the basis of a policy of thrift" has once more been placed on the agenda. The task in the main is to stabilize retail prices. A substantial increase in state investments in the needs of agriculture is planned.

AIR ROUTE TO LINK GDR, USSR, PRC CAPITALS

OW300607 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1500 GMT 29 Apr 87

[Text] New air routes will become the fastest way to directly link the capitals of the GDR, the Soviet Union, and China.

The air route will begin on 30 April. A GDR civil aviation company IL-62 passenger plane will depart Berlin on that day and arrive in Moscow in 2 hours and 30 minutes. The plane will then fly from Moscow to Beijing in 7 hours and 50 minutes.

On 1 May a USSR Civil Aviation Company IL-62 passenger plane will take off from Sheremetyevskiy Airport near Moscow and fly to Beijing. On 4 May a Chinese Civil Aviation Administration plane will fly to Berlin for the first time.

The three sides are all convinced that the opening of the new air routes is necessary to meet the need of increased air transportation and the expansion of economic and trade among the three countries.

NORTHEAST ASIA

PRAVDA CITES DPRK PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY OPENING

PM291541 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Apr 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Session Opens"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 21 Apr -- A DPRK Supreme People's Assmbly session opened here today. The deputies of the supreme organ of state power will consider the draft 3d 7-Year Plan for the development of the DPRK national economy in 1987-93, hear a report on the implementation of the DPRK state budget for 1986, and approve the country's 1987 budget. Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and president of the DPRK, is attending the session.

Yi Kun-mo, member of the WPK Central Committee Politburo and DPRK premier, delivered a report on the new 7-year plan for the development of the DPRK national economy.

DPRK CHARGE ON S. KOREAN 'RELUCTANCE' TO DIALOGUE

PM291823 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "For Peaceful Unification"]

[Text] On 24 April a news conference was held at the DPRK Embassy in the USSR at which Li Du Rel [name as transliterated], charge d'affaires ad interim, presented journalists with a statement by a representative of the Administrative Council. The statement points out the reluctance of the South Korean regime to hold talks with the DPRK on a mutually acceptable basis..

Specific examples were cited at the news conference which attest to the DPRK's efforts to begin a military-political dialogue with South Korea, which has put forward all manner of "prior conditions" in response to Pyongyang's constructive proposals. The main condition is that the question of building a hydroelectric power plant at Kymgansan [name as published] should be discussed, although it is a purely internal affair of the DPRK.

DPRK STATEMENT ON SOUTH'S 'NON-CONSTRUCTIVE STAND'

LD301709 Moscow TASS in English 1548 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 TASS -- The South Korean authorities have taken a non-constructive stand with regard to the DPRK's latest proposals that high-level military-political negotiations between the North and South of Korea be held, and preliminary negotiations be organized to prepare a meeting at the level of prime ministers. This stand is detrimental to the interests of the Korean people striving for independent, peaceful unification of the homeland on a democratic basis. This is said in a statement for the press by Chong Gum-chul, head of the DPRK delegation to meetings to prepare inter-parliamentary North-South negotiations. The statement has been distributed in Pyongyang today.

In the South Korean side's reply messages there are even concrete dates for negotiations it offers to be held on "water resources", on economic questions, the document stresses.

But there is no mention whatsoever of Seoul's intention to conduct any inter-parliamentary dialogue meanwhile this dialogue is of an exclusively great significance, above all, for signing a joint North-South non-aggression declaration.

The South Korea side's noisy pronouncements on the need of "developing the existing contacts" and "relaxing tensions" in the Korean Peninsula are nothing but a propaganda trick. In Seoul they are resorting to this trick to conceal from the international public their own unwillingness to conduct any negotiations, the statement says.

PRAVDA VIEWS DEVELOPMENT OF DPRK ECONOMY

PM291347 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Apr 87 Second Edition p 4

[Correspondent V. Razuvayev dispatch under the rubric "Following the Course of the Party Congress": "Spring of Creation"]

[Text] Pyongyang -- It is spring in Pyongyang. The theaters, museums, ancient pagodas, monuments, and fountains are covered with the blossoms of greenhouse flowers and even unseasonal roses. The traditional "April Spring" music festival has made Pyongyang even more beautiful and attractive. Guests have come to the festival from 70 countries. The broad avenues and squares of the DPRK's capital are covered with soft greenery.

The city has been renewed and construction is continuing. Pukse [name as published] Street and phase two of Chkollim [name as published] Avenue will soon provide a new housing area for more than 20,000 Pyongyang residents. A forest of tower cranes can be seen in the city's southwestern suburbs. Kvanbok [name as published] Avenue is being built here -- it will link the city center with the Mangende [name as published] park area.

Today's Pyongyang is the capital of a state with a developed industry and a strong agricultural sector. In the period since the country's liberation a firm industrial base has been laid and new sectors created. The volume of industrial production has grown sharply.

These successes did not come automatically. They are the result of dogged and intensive efforts on the part of Korean workers and peasants led by the Workers Party of Korea [WPK]. It is also the result of fruitful cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. A great deal has been done. Still more will have to be done. There are many unsolved economic problems. This is stated in party documents and press articles. They point in particular to the need to expand the raw material base by developing the mining industry on a preferential basis. Power engineering is also faling to adequately meet the national economy's needs, even though it is developing at a rapid rate. The question of further improving the work of transportation is acute. The intensification of agricultural production requires considerable effort.

Recently the WPK has been devoting special attention to the need to improve the forms and methods of managing the national economy and individual sectors and enterprises and to expanding scientific research.

Speaking at a recent session of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and DPRK president, noted that the main task during the new 7-year plan is to expedite the modernization of the national economy at an accelerated rate, switch it to a scientific footing, and lay sound material and technical foundations for the complete victory of socialism.

During the new 7-year plan it is planned to complete implementation of the national economic development program outlined by the Sixth WPK Congress. The following figures give some idea of the program. Thus, whereas in 1975 the country produced 28 billion kolowatt-hours of electricity, it is planned to raise production to 100 billion kilowatt-hours by 1993. It is also planned to considerably increase production of ferrous and nonferrous metals, cement, mineral fertilizers, and fabrics and to boost production of coal and marine products.

Of course, these are complex tasks. They require considerable effort on the part of the working class, the peasantry, and the intelligentsia. Struggling to successfully fulfill what has been planned, the WPK attaches great importance not only to the commissioning of new capacities, but also to the fuller utilization of existing equipment and the intensification of the struggle to save raw and other materials, fuel, and electricity.

How is the program drawn up by the WPK being implemented in metallurgy? Is it realistic? I put these questions to Choe Kham Cher [last two elements as published], party committee secretary at the Kim Chak [last element as published] Metallurgical Combine in Ch'ongjin.

"This program," he replied, "envisages in particular almost tripling steel smelting to 15 million tonnes. We believe that we are equal to the task. The association collective will make its contribution to resolving this task..."

The buildings of the republic's largest ferrous metallurgy enterprise stand on both sides of the Chiktu-dong River. The part of the plant on the right bank is much newer than on the left bank. It includes oxygen converter, rolling, and certain other shops and production facilities built with Soviet technical assistance. They produce 1 million tonnes of steel and rolled metal annually.

"The converters and continous casting installations manufactured by Soviet machine builders operate excellently," Choe Kham Cher noted. "They are simple in design, reliable, and highly profitable. We assimilated them very quickly...".

The party committee secretary talked with great warmth about the Soviet engineers and technicians who helped build the shops and repair equipment and who passed on their knowledge, experience, and operating procedures to their Korean colleagues. He said with satisfaction that cooperation with our country in modernizing the enterprise is continuing. Work to expand capacity is now in full swing.

It should be noted that the prospects for developing the Kim Chak [last element as published] Metallurgical Association are not restricted to this. Carrying out the decisons of the Sixth WPK Congress, construction has been started of another steel casting plant -- the third -- in the part of the plant on the right of the bank. It is planned that all the necessary equipment will be manufactured by the republic's machine builders. With the completion of the work currently under way, Choe Kahm Cher stated, the enterprise will produce 6 million tones of steel per year.

"This is 50 percent more than was produced in the country in the mid-seventies," he added. "As you can see, it is a very attractive prospect."

The machine builders and the chemical, electrical, construction, textile, and party workers with whom I met recently spoke of their resolve to produce more and build more quickly and to higher standards. A large detachment of Korean People's Army servicemen is now working alongside these people of peaceful professions at construction sites.

Major General Yi Khon Sun [last two elements as published], deputy chief of the Korean People's Army General Staff, stated that last year, on the orders of the People's Army Supreme High Command, a number of subunits totaling 150,000 men were withdrawn from their permanent bases near the demilitarized zone and transferred to civilian construction projects.

I met with the construction workers in military uniform building a dam and shipping locks on the Taedong-gang River, hydroelectric stations at the Tkhechkhon [name as published] Waterfall, the Sariwon Organic Fertilizer Plant, and Kvanbok [name as published] Avenue in the capital.

Maj Gen Yi Khon Sun [last two elements as published] spoke with understandable concern about the intrigues of the U.S. military, which has to all intents and purposes occupied South Korea, continues its provocations against the DPRK, and whips up war hysteria.

"But despite this, our government and the WPK considered it possible to transfer such a large military contingent to civilian construction projects," the general stressed. "This fact attests to their sincere desire to promote the easing of tension on the Korean Peninsula, to turn it into a nuclear-free zone -- a zone of peace -- and to thereby create favorable conditions for the peaceful unification of the north and south of our homeland."

Socialist Korea is growing and being built. The achievements of its people, engaged in carrying out the tasks envisaged by the WPK for the 3d Korean 7-Year Plan, are imbued with youth and vigor.

DAILY NOTES ADOPTION OF NEW DPRK ECONOMIC PLAN

PM291329 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 24 Apr 87 p 3

[TASS report: "Session Ends"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 23 Apr -- The strengthening of the material and technical base of socialism, the extensive development of the social sphere, and the improvement of working people's living standards are the main areas of future socialist economic building in the DPRK, the decisions of the routine session of the republic's Supreme People's Assembly, which ended here today, note. The deputies of the country's supreme organ of state power unanimously approved the law on the 3d 7-Year Plan for the development of the DPRK national economy in 1987-1993 and adopted a resolution on the results of the implementation of the DPRK state budget for 1986 and the law on the republic's state budget for 1987.

DELEGATION DISUSSES JOINT VENTURE WITH DPRK

SK011103 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Text] A delegation of the Khabarovsk Kray headed by Comrade (Wadel Morozov), chairman of the Khabarovsk Kray Soviet Executive Committee, visited the DPRK some time ago at the invitation of the Pyongyang Municipal Administrative and Economic Guidance Committee.

(Mikhail Krechov), resident reported of this radio station in Pyongyang, asked Comrade (Morozov) to tell about the result of his visit and his impression of Korea.

[Begin recording in Russian fading into Korean translation] According to decisions made in our country, enterprises in our country are entitled to have direct ties with relevant enterprises in socialist countries. Based on such decisions, we discussed not only the issue of cooperative work, but also a series of commercial domains, including the establishment of plants and enterprises in which both sides are interested with the Korean comrades. These domains are, for example, the timber processing industry, light industry, and the construction materials production industry.

We held talks to discuss the issue of specifying the conditions for establishing joint-ventured enterprises to produce shoes, men's clothing, knit clothing for women and [passage indistinct].

Such cooperation will undoubtedly benefit both countries. During our stay in Korea, we not only visited Pyongyang, but also toured industrial enterprises in rural areas to understand their work and met with workers.

We were given warm hospitality wherever we went. Taking this opportunity, I would like to express my deep thanks to the Korean friends in the name of all members of the delegation.

Hoping we will have many opportunities to frequently meet each other in the future, I believe all the plans we are implementing together with the Korean comrades will contribute to developing friendship and cooperative relations between the Soviet Union and the DPRK.

MONGOLIA'S DUGERSUREN LEAVES MOSCOW AFTER STOPOVER

PM301049 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Apr 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "En Route for Home"]

[Text] Mongolian Foreign Minister M. Dugersuren left for home 28 April after a stopover in Moscow.

He was seen off at the airport by USSR Deputy Foreign Minister I.A. Rogachev, other officials, and also Ts. Gurbadam, Mongolian ambassador to the USSR.

DRA'S WAKIL SENDS MESSAGE TO UN SECRETARY GENERAL

LD011850 Moscow TASS in English 1809 GMT 1 May 87

[Text] Kabul May 1 TASS -- 'Abdol Wakil, foreign minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA), has sent a message to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, in which he set out the position and proposals by the DRA concerning the return of Afghan refugees to the homeland.

The document points out that the DRA leadership repeatedly called upon the governments of Pakistan and Iran to give assitance to the emigrants who wish to return to Afghanistan, BAKHTAR News Agency reported with reference to the source of the DRA Foreign Ministry.

The Pakistani and Iranian authorities, however, do not create conditions for a voluntary return of refugees and, moreover, hamper this process in every way. The U.N. secretary general was already informed about this in previous messages.

The DRA Government, the message says, proposed that visits to refugee camps in the terrorities of neighboring countries be organised under the United Nations aegis by delegations consisting of members of the DRA Supreme Extraordinary Commission for National Reconciliation and public organisations.

These delegations could familiarize themselves with Afghans' living conditions in the camps. In case the governments of Pakistan and Iran are really concerned, and not in word, with the presence of a large number of emigrants in their countries and wish that they return to the homeland, the visits of camps by delegations from Afghanistan would considerably speed up this process.

The message expresses the hope for U.N. secretary general's assistance in implementing this proposal which is designed to give a fresh impetus to the Afghan-Pakistani negotiations in Geneva and restoring DRA's goodneighborly relations with Pakistan and Iran.

DRA SECURITY THWARTS REBEL ATTEMPT BOMB KABUL

LD291631 Moscow TASS in English 0700 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Kabul April 29 TASS -- Security forces in Afghanistan have prevented an attempt by anti-government bandits to subject the capital to a bombardment on the day of the 9th anniversary of the April Revolution.

BAKHTAR News Agency said that authorities had been tipped off about preparations for the crime by peasants in Chungar district.

The security forces during their opposition seized a cache holding arms and ammunition, including five U.S.-made ground-to-ground rockets delivered to the gang in question from Pakistan especially to be fired on the Afghan capital.

REPORT ON REFUGEES, USSR MILITARY HELP IN DRA

LD271232 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1400 GMT on 26 April, in the "International Panorama" program presented by Vsevolod Ovchinnikov, carries a 10-minute video report by correspondent Mikhail Leshchinskiy from Afghanistan. Ovchinnikov introduces Leschniskiy's report as follows:

"Tommorow the DRA marks the 9th anniversary of the April Revolution. The holiday falls at a difficult but momentus time; the policy of national reconciliation is meeting with growing support from the people. Despite all the obstacles, more than 40,000 refugees have returned to their homeland and more than 20,000 people who fought against people's power with weapons in hand are now on the revolution's side. Another 1,100 armed bands are conducting negotiations on ceasing armed activity. Thanks to Kabul's constructive position, substantial advances have been made on a political settlement of the situation over Afghanistan; the Afghan-Pakistan negotiations in Geneva have reached the level of a real rapprochement of positions.

"However, imperialist circles in the United States are trying to block these positive tendencies. While the government is observing the conditions of the cease-fire, outside interference is assuming an even more dangerous character. Things are even going as far as criminal actions on USSR territory, as in the beginning of April. We present a report by Mikhail Leshchinskiy."

Leshchinskiy is seen reporting from two different refugee control points on the Afghan-Pakistan border where he describes the plight of refugees newly returned to the DRA following the national reconciliation policy. He makes the point that even in their homeland, "dushman bullets, mines, and missiles not infrequently hit them." He explains the various aid programs the government has organized to assist returnees and adds that medical and material assistance is given to all free of charge.

Leshchinskiy's next location is the city of Jalabad where he points out damage to buildings caused by a powerful bomb planted by "terrorists" from the Islamic Party of Afghanistan. The video footage shows bomb damage. However, Leshchinskiy explains that those opposed to national reconciliation have been acted against: "High in the mountains, 2 or 3 km from the Pakistani border, a widespread reinforced region was established by specially equipped and well-armed bandit groups. At the request of the DRA Government, USSR artillerty, aviation, and subunits of assault troops were brought in a complex operation to destroy this." The video shows aerial shots from a helicopter of mountain scenery and military hardware on the crest of a series of ridges, followed by missiles being fired from the valley. The pictures then show a scene of abandoned machine gunes and ammunition and a dead body. "Thus ended the history of yet another dushman base," Leshchinskiy concludes. He adds that during the cleaning up, launching gear and guidance instruments for U.S. Stinger missiles -- "supplies of which to the dushmans are continually increasing" -- were also found.

Leshchinskiy moves on to talk to the commander of an FRG film crew on location in the DRA about the presence of the USSR troops in the DRA. He concludes this exchange by commenting how "amazed" he is at the desire of Western correspondents to reduce the diversity of friendly ties between the DRA and the USSR to "only the military aspects."

Leshchinskiy ends his report by summarizing the history of cooperation between the USSR and the DRA while the video portion shows Najibullah and a USSR delegation attending the opening ceremony at a metallurgical complex.

ARTICLE VIEWS AFGHAN RECONCILIATION PROCESS

PM281543 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Apr 1987 First Edition carries on page 3 under the headline "Spring of Reconciliation" and the rubric "From the Afghan Notebook" a 2,100-word report by special correspondent A. Mozgovoy outlining the DRA Government campaign for 'peace and reconciliation' in the country and the efforts of 'counterrevolutionaries' to obstruct it.

Describing the benefits of the policy, Mozgovoy cites a former counterrevolutionary just released from prison, who confesses to joining a dushman band out of a "boyish desire to play at being a partisan. But it is a cruel game." "Reconciliation gives me a chance to correct my mistake," he is reported as saying. Mozgovoy notes that more than 5,000 former gang members have been released from prison on condition that they do not resume hostile activity. The reporter cites another former rebel in praise of DRA Government efforts to help former fighters build up their farms again: "This means that we are being given the right to live and work." He also notes the observations of a surgeon on the reduction in child casualties from mine explosions.

The correspondent describes the activities of "counterrevolutionaries" whose leaders receive "orders from the U.S. CIA" and whose fighters receive "rich financial rewards." "This is how Washington pays for murder and violence," Mozgovoy concludes. He lists a number of ways in which dushman "ringleaders" are opposing national reconciliation in Afghanistan, accusing individuals of murdering, imprisoning, or fining followers who cooperate with the DRA Government. The Pakistani and Iranian authorities are also criticized for allegedly trying to prevent Afghan refugees from returning home by fining, imprisoning, or beating them. "Just the same, the people do strive to return home," Mozgovoy adds.

Mozgovoy claims growing success for the DRA Government "national reconciliation" policy, citing the signing of agreements with rebel groups, the transfer of armed formations to the government side, and the return of 214 refugee families from Pakistan and Iran to "start a new life." He concludes by citing the words of a delegate to the DRA National Fatherland Front Congress: "The attitude to reconciliation is now the only criterion of love for the motherland."

BIRYUKOV REVIEWS DRA REVOLUTION'S 9 YEAR HISTORY

LD242247 Moscow TASS in English 1628 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow 24 TASS -- Political news analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

The April Revolution in Afghanistan, which took upon itself the most formidable task of overcoming the country's age-old backwardness and making its people enlightened and prospering, began nine years ago. The Afghan people are marking this anniversary by the efforts of all patriotic forces to ensure the country's economic growth, to raise living standards in conditions of the fierce opposition by the counter-revolution and the forces of imperialism supporting it.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is at a crucial stage of its development. The process of national reconciliation called upon to put an end to the protracted fratricidal war is under way. Steps are being taken to give this process a tangible embodiment in the areas of economy, politics and social relations. Although it is yet early to sum up results, one thing is obvious: The idea of national reconciliation and the firm course of the Afghan leadership to implement it have the broadest support of the masses of Afghans both inside the country and abroad.

This is evidenced, for instance, by the tens of thousands of refugees who have returned to the DRA despite all obstacles, and by the thousands of members of armed groups who have sided with the people's power although only recently they opposed it.

The programme of national reconciliation set forth by the DRA leadership has evoked much response throughout the world. Those who would like to capitalize further on the armed conflict in Afghanistan, to prevent a settlement of the situation around that country fiercely oppose this programme. The West, first of all the United States, has noticeably stepped up activities directed at frustrating this process in the DRA and at preventing a normalization of the situation inside and around that country and perpetuating this dangerous seat of tension on the southern border of the USSR.

It is precisely the United States, which pays lip service to a political settlement, that is trying to procrastinate such a settlement or torpedo it altogether. The buildup of financial aid to the anti-government forces, of deliveries to the counter-revolutionaries of the most modern weapons, for instance "sinter" missiles, shows that today the war in Afghanistan is a military action of the United States. It is also obvious that the encroachments by the counterrevolutionaries on the inviolability of the Soviet Union's border with the DRA in the area of the River Panj were undertaken with Washington's direct incitement.

Neither Washington nor Islamabad even tried to dissociate themselves from these provocations. More than that, Islamabad decided to make its own contribution to the escalation of the armed interference in the DRA's affairs. What but desire to further escalate tension in that area can explain such facts as the downing by Pakistani air force pilots of an Afghan An-26 transport plane and the subsequent new provocation against a fighter plane of the Afghan Air Force which was making a patrol flight along the border over Afghan territory?

But all the attempts to foil the advance of the April Revolution, the course of national reconciliation in Afghanistan and the attainment of a reliable political settlement are doomed to failure. For this course, just as the revolution itself, reflects the will and resolve of the entire Afghan people.

DRA PROTESTS PAKISTANI AIR SPACE VIOLATIONS

LD011512 Moscow TASS in English 1057 GMT 1 May 87

[Text] Kabul May 1 TASS -- On April 29, 1987 two F-16 fighter planes made in the U.S. which belonged to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan violated the air space of Afghanistan in the area of Paktia Province, the BAKHTAR news agency reported today. Afghan planes and anti-aircraft units showed to them with the help of warning signals that they had entered the Afghan air space. However, the planes paid no attention to the warning signals and continued their flight over the Afghan territory. One of the fighter planes, flying over host district, was brought down by an Afghan anti-aircraft unit.

A charge d'affairs ad interim of Pakistan in Kabul was summoned Thursday to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan where a protest was lodged to him which pointed out that this action was regarded as an open violation of the air space of Afghanistan. It runs counter to all the generally accepted standards of international law. Afghan Air Force and anti-aircraft units had to take appropriate measures as a result of which one of the planes was brought down over host district.

Despite repeated protests of competent Afghan bodies, Pakistan continues to violate the air space of Afghanistan. These provocative actions of the Pakistani authorities heighten tension in relations between the two countries. Pakistani authorities are the ones who are to bear all the responsibility for those aggressive actions.

ARMY PAPER CITES U.S. 'SECRET DIRECTIVE' TOWARD DRA

PM011251 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Apr 87 First Edition p 3

[V. Vinogradov "Military-Political Commentary": "Covert Directives and Overt Provocation"]

[Text] Use "any means available" to prevent the end of the military conflict in Afghanistan and the establishment of long-awaited peace there -- these are Washington's aims in giving massive financial and military aid to rebel Afghan counterrevolutionary formations. This "supertask" set by the U.S. Administration is formulated in a secret national security directive No 166, whose existence has been reported by THE WASHINGTON POST.

According to the newspaper, the document -- personally signed in April 1985 by President Reagan at the insistence of the Pentagon -- is the first clear indication" of the specific aims being pursued by the United States in expanding its undeclared war against the Afghan people. Washington spares no means to supply the most up-to-date arms to terrorists and mercenaries, through whom it would like to overthrow the people's power in Afghanistan. According to THE WASHINGTON POST, in the last 5 years U.S. aid to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries has increased from $50 million per year to $670 million and amounts to more than $1 billion in total. The dushmans' patrons on Capitol Hill calculate -- evidently not without reason -- that by 1989 annual aid to the Dushmans will reach $2 billion.

The aid given by Washington to the rebels causes the Afghan people incalculable suffering. The material damage alone incurred by the DRA national economy as a result of reactionary forces' subversive activity amounts to $1 billion. That is, the $1 billion which came from the United States to be placed at the disposal of the counterrevolutionary leaders.

In an attempt to end the prolonged bloodshed, the leadership of democratic Afghanistan has launched an extensive national reconciliation program. But whereas this program has met with fervor and enthusiasm throughout the country, it has given rise to unconcealed hostility across the ocean. "The national reconciliation sought by Kabul," President Reagan has said, "is impossible." To ensure that this statement does not remain empty, Washington has backed it up by sending the dushmans further arms consignments, including 600 "Stinger" anti-aircraft missiles.

What is more, U.S. Senator G. Humphrey, who is head of some U.S. Congress "Afghan Committee," conveyed a secret letter to President Reagan from Pakistani Prime Minister M.K. Junejo after paying a visit to Islamabad. The letter contains an appeal from the Islamabad powers to urgently begin supplying them with U.S. aircraft equipped with the AWACS system. In exchange, the Pakistani regime is prepared to help to considerably activate terrorist attacks by Afghan dushmans. Accordng to THE WASHINGTON POST, this is a verbatim reproduction of the letter: "If AWACS aircraft are sold or leased to Pakistan immediately, the rebels will be trained accordingly to carry out missile attacks on major Afghan cities, including Kabul itself." It is therefore no coincidence that a report came from Afghanistan on another rebel dushman attack at the time when G. Humphrey had handed over the letter from Junejo. They launched a U.S. missile attack on an innocent settlement in Kunar province. [paragraph continues]

There can be no doubt this was done on orders from the other side of the cordon to demonstrate the "possibilities" the Pakistani powers have to increase tension in Afghanistan.

The other day the Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted in favor of continuing U.S. military aid to Pakistan, despite the numerous facts revealing Islamabad's efforts to create its own nuclear weapons. New consignments of U.S. military equipment will be swelling Pakistan's arsenals. This in turn will lead to greater activity by the rebel rabble in Afghan territory, as Junejo himself promises in his letter.

But neither covert directives nor overt armed attacks will break the determination of the Afghan people to put an end to the fratricidal war and create the conditions for a peaceful, independent Afghanistan.

U.S. SENATOR'S VISIT TO KABUL CRITICIZED

PM221451 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 87 First Edition p 5

[Vadim Okulov "Commentator's Column": "Shortsighted Position"]

[Text] Kabul was recently visited by Republican Senator Gordon, Humphrey, who heads the "working group on Afghanistan" in the U.S. Congress. The visit by an influential specialist on Afghan affairs to the DRA, where a national reconciliation policy is being persistently and consistently implemented, could be regarded as a positive and important step on the way to U.S. participation in the process of reaching a political settlement of the situation in the region.

It could be regarded as such if the senator had actually displayed an interest in this process. But he did not even meet with DRA Government representatives, although this would have enabled him to substantially increase his knowledge of the Afghan problem and make a practical contribution to realizing the U.S. Administration's stated "desire" to resolve this regional conflict by peaceful, political means. The senator did not even want to talk to journalists.

However, the senator's behavior will only appear strange to those who are sincerely trying to end the bloodshed in Afghanistan. It is obvious that this does not yet include G. Humphrey and others of his ilk in the U.S. Administration. Indeed, who will believe that the $630 million the United States will spend this year alone on maintaining the Afghan dushmans will serve the aim of settling the conflict in this region? Or the 300 "Stinger" anti-aircraft rocket launchers with which, in addition to the 150 already provided, the United States will equip the Afghan terrorists who bring down passenger aircraft?

Washington's overtly negative stance regarding the constructive efforts of the DRA Government is not only full of hypocrisy but is also shortsighted. The process of national reconciliation in Afghanistan is assuming increasingly tangible forms. The head of the U.S. Congress working group could have obtained facts evidencing this first-hand in Kabul. But, persisting with dogged determination worthy of better application to fuel the fire of the undeclared war against the DRA, Washington is clearly trying to slow down the positive processes taking place in this country.

But these efforts are in vain! Sooner or later the problem will be resolved and the process of national reconciliation will result in the formation of an authoritative coalition government heading a peaceful, independent, nonaligned Afghanistan. The fate of the DRA lies in the hands of its people, who passionately desire peace.

SOVIET REGIONAL OFFICIAL MEETS DRA'S CHAMKANI

PM291545 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "On A Firm Foundation of Friendship"]

[Text] Kabul, 26 Apr -- The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by Deputy L.B. Yermin, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, which is here, had a meeting with H.M. Chamkani, acting chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

Soviet-Afghan friendship, H.M. Chamkani stated at the meeting, is steadily strengthening. He thanked the Soviet Union for the assistance it had provided and stressed the great importance for the Afghan economy of the projects constructed and being constructed in the DRA with Soviet technical assistance.

H.M. Chamkani noted that the national reconciliation policy announced by the Afghan leadership and supported not only inside the country but abroad was a most important event in the DRA's life.

The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation was received by S.'A. Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers. Our relations, the latter said, have risen to a qualitatively new level. The meetings last December between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, were an important landmark in their development. The visit to the DRA by E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was of great importance.

The initiatives made by the Soviet Union with a view to strengthening peace, S.'A. Keshtmand stressed, are having a great impact on all mankind.

During the meetings the head of the Soviet delegation talked in detail about the transformations currently taking place in the Soviet Union, and about the Soviet people's preparations to celebrate the 70th anniversary of Great October.

P.P. Mozhayev, USSR ambassador to the DRA, attended the meetings.

PAKISTAN 'REQUEST' FOR U.S. AWACS DISCUSSED

LD291723 Moscow TASS in English 1649 GMT 29 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 29 TASS -- TASS news analyst Valeriy Vavilov writes:

The U.S. press reports that Islamabad has secretly sent an urgent request, addressed to United States President Ronald Reagan, for AWACS (Airborne Warning and Control System) radar planes.

Pakistan ostensibly needs these American reconnaissance aircraft for "the defence of its borders with Afghanistan".

When U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger visited Islamabad last October, he pledged that the United States would try to provide AWACS radar planes to Pakistan "as quickly as possible", considering that it was in the interests of Washington's global strategy to set up air reconnaissance in the region.

The Pentagon's estimates are that AWACS radar planes, patrolling along the borders with Afghanistan and India, could conduct reconnaissance more than 700 km deep not only into the territory of Afghanistan and India but of the southern areas of the Soviet Union as well.

But the delivery of the spy planes has become somewhat delayed because Pakistan turned out to be unable to afford paying about two billion dollars for two such planes.

So, the price of AWACS planes is the point. Therefore, according to THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper, Islamabad has suggested another deal, a truly monstrous one in its cynicism: The United States lease two spy planes to Islamabad while the latter would immediately set about training special groups of counterrevolutionaries for organizing rocket attacks against Kabul.

THE WASHINGTON POST writes that it is also specified that rocket strikes would be delivered by counterrevolutionaries trained by Pakistani instructors against those districts of the Afghan capital where Soviet citizens live as well as against bazaars, shops, and residential blocks of the city.

Targets for rocket attacks were prompted by U.S. Senator Gordon J. Humphrey who, during a meeting with Ziaul Haq, even showed photographs of such 'lucrative targets in Kabul'.

It is hard to imagine a more shameless provocative affairs: The lives of people -- Afghan and Soviet -- are measured by the number of dollars in U.S. aid.

Thereby Islamabad goes to a further escalation of the undeclared war and to an increase in its direct involvement in the war.

THE NEW YORK TIMES newspaper stresses that Pakistani officials have said they prefer the Boeing E-3A AWACS plane, "the most sophisticated and expensive radar plane available."

Islamabad expects that Washington will agree to lease the planes, since a continuation of the war and a further fanning-up of the hotbed of the military conflict is precisely part and parcel of the U.S. Administration's plans.

So, in compliance with the request, U.S. planes with American pilots to fly them may appear on Pakistani territory, THE NEW YORK TIMES quotes the Pakistani letter containing the request, "as soon as possible, preferably within a month of so."

"Pakistani officials assured Washington that the planes would not fly over Afghanistan and that the Americans would be safe," THE NEW YORK TIMES writes.

The Pakistani authorities and their Washington patron show quite a light-minded forgetfulness, indeed.

Apparently the lesson of history did not teach them anything. Both Islamabad and Washington apparently do not want to remember that it was precisely from the Pakistani airfield in Badaber near Peshawar that U.S. spy pilot Powers took off in a U.S. U-2 spy plane on May 1, 1960, only to end under the plane wreckage his inglorious spying flight over Soviet territory.

Neither do they want to remember the complications which the provocation had brought about in Soviet-American and Soviet-Pakistani relations.

It is time for Washington and Islamabad to listen to the voice of reason, to take a sober view of the situation, to show a new way of thinking corresponding to the realities of the changed world, and to take measures for a political settlement of the Afghanistan situation the constructive ways to which are being suggested by the governments of both the DRA and the Soviet Union.

PAKISTAN, INDIA EXCHANGE FIRE IN KASHMIR

LD021620 Moscow TASS in English 1539 GMT 2 May 87

[Text] New Delhi May 2 TASS -- Pakistani Army again brought unprovoked fire on the positions of the Indian forces in the Punchh sector on the control line separating the Islamabad-occupied part of Jammu and Kashmir state from the rest of Indian territory.

According to the Indian news agency UNI, Indian troops had to return the fire. The ensuing duel lasted for more than one hour.

The Indian press regarded the latest Pakistani provocation on India's northern border as fresh evidence of the intention of Islamabad authorities to maintain tensions in the region and continue using military force to generate a threat to India's security.

This is also confirmed by the buildup of Pakistani forces on the illegally-occupied part of Indian territory and the construction of military air fields, strategic highways and weapon depots there with the assistance of foreign specialists.

The newspaper TRIBUNE noted that Pakistan's policy of aggravating confrontation with India threatened peace on the Indian subcontinent and undermined efforts of the Indian Government to promote trust and cooperation among the states in the region.

SOVIET DEPUTY MINISTER ON RELATIONS WITH INDIA

BK011455 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 1 May 87

[Text] The Soviet Union has reiterated that it will not do anything that might harm India's interest while developing relations with other countries. In an interview with UNI [UNITED NEWS OF INDIA] in Moscow, the first Soviet deputy foreign minister, Mr Yuliy Vorontsov, said India-Soviet cooperation is based on peaceful coexistence. He also described India's approach to the Kampuchean issue as constructive.

Mentioning the Delhi Declaration signed by the Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev, and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, he said it is like a code of conduct to be pursued by other countries in this nuclear age.

USSR'S ANTONOV DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH HUNGARY

LD252136 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1400 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Interview with Aleksey Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, by reporter Gabor Izveki on the "One Hundred Sixty-Eight Hours" program; recorded; first paragraph is announcer's introduction -- questions in Hungarian, Antonov's answers in Russian fading into Hungarian translation]

[Text] [Announcer] My memory may play tricks with me but I do not remember such detailed and thorough information ever being published after a Mixed Committeee for Economic and Technical-Scientific Cooperation session than was the case this week after the session in Budapest. Nor do I remember the committee's cochairman ever giving an interview to our correspondents so readily as did Soviet Deputy Premier Aleksey Antonov to Gabor Izbeki:

[Izbeki] You are dealing with Hungarian-Soviet economic relations on a very high level. In your judgment, what is the extent of the influence on our cooperation of the extraordinarily determined and dynamic social and economic renewal currently taking place in the Soviet Union?

[Antonov] There is no doubt such influence does exist, but I would like to emphasize that the Soviet transformation has only just begun. Therefore, perhaps it is not yet timely to speak about the kind of concrete impact it may have on our bilateral relations. By the way, we expect from this renewal and the new kind of work by the party and the people that the Soviet Union will be stronger, the population's living standard will increase, and our links with the world -- primarily the socialist countries -- will be stronger. In my view Hungary and the other socialist countries, and perhaps even the whole world, can only gain if the Soviet Union becomes economically stronger, more united, and more open toward the world. However, I emphasize we are only at the start of the renewal.

[Izbeki] There is hope in Hungary that if the Soviet Union becomes economically stronger, if its output approaches world standards, it will pull us along as well.

[Antonov] This hope is quite understandable. We are currently experimenting with new forms of cooperation; I have been the committee's cochairman for only a short time, and I have spent only a few days in Hungary. Still, I hear fom everybody that today it is already much easier to come to an understanding with Soviet ministries and enterprises. Of course, certain obstructions exist today too, but the essence is that the situation is improving. Contacts are more open, very much more so; decisions are made much faster; cooperation is more direct because the highest level stages can be bypassed, which previously only slowed down the work. I consider it very important that this process and the success is indicating, even at the beginning of the work, the new methods' attractiveness.

[Izbeki] The quality of economic relations between the socialist countries is changing day after day; it is improving. What progress do you expect in Hungarian-Soviet cooperation on the one hand and in the multilateral economic relations of the socialist countries on the other hand?

[Antonov] Until very recently our economic relations wee exhausted at the level of simple goods exchange; it was because the plans coordinated and determined everything down to the last screw -- and it was done on paper and at a high level.

Now the commercial character of our cooperation is decreasing, and we are turning toward production relations, which provide possibilities for a much more effective and deepened work and can serve the advance of both sides as well. What is at issue here is not only direct contacts between enterprises but new forms that have proven themselves in the business world already but that we have not yet been employing. This is the case regarding both the ministries, the research institutes, and the enterprises: in other words, everybody participating in the construction of links of our two countries. What has until now been, in essence, dictated by the foreign trade enterprises will from now on be determined by the criterion as to whether it is worthwhile or not to deal with this or that, that is, whether the firm producing those particular goods makes a profit or not.

[Izbeki] On the basis of this, the working out of the agreements and accords will be based on the coordination of interests more than they have so far. You, as the representative of the Soviet side, -- and I am asking this -- do you see any serious obstructions in the way of expanding cooperation? Are there, for example, plans the Soviet Union is trying to phase in but for some reason could not have been materialized before?

[Antonov] Let me answer the second part of the question first; that is, what the Soviet Union is trying to achieve. The Soviet Union wants, unambiguously, to expand relations. It also wants both countries to participate in a completely equal status. This is all the more important because the construction of links will be moved from the higher levels into the hands of the enterprises and institutions, and I am sure nobody will conclude agreements or deals that would be disadvantageous for him. Nor can we achieve our long term objectives as countries if the relationship is beneficial to only one side. Recognition of this is one of the greatest truths of the past and one of the most important factors that needs to be taken into account if we want to stave off the obstructions of development. Regarding the difficulties, or as your put it, the obstructions, I can state that none of the things we call the economic mechanism of cooperation -- the currency relations, the legal arrangements, the financial accounting system, and the credit policy's methods today -- match up to the new requirements whatsoever. Both sides have already worked out a plan. It now depends on the endeavors and pressure by the enterprises and cooperating organizations as to how and when we find solutions to these tasks.

[Izbeki] Transformation is proceeding in the Soviet Union. In Hungary, however, the advancement of economic reform is taking place, and this basically means the same social and economic changes. Can the cooperation of our two countries, renewing itself on these bases, act as a model for the other socialist countries?

[Antonov] It would be incorrect to take the view that we possess unique experiences in the Soviet Union or in Hungary and that others should have to follow these experiences as a law. As we see, planning and economic management are interpreted differently in the socialist countries, and they achieved the results they did by using their own methods. We believe it is the natural right of every socialist country to decide the way it wants to follow and the methods it wants to use to develop its economy and the living standard of its people. However, it is also true that the socialist countries must follow each other's progress. If they consider them to be useful, they should use others' successful methods. This can only enrich our cooperation. For example, we think there are many elements in the Hungarian system of economic management that have been worked out in suitable depth. It is possible that the application of these can be useful not only in the Soviet Union but in other socialist countries as well.

[Izbeki] Could you mention any products that have not figured in deliveries so far but are very much looked forward to by Hungarian consumers? I have in mind first and foremost cars and other durable consumer goods.

[Antonov] You know, tests are currently under way in the Soviet Union of the new ZAZ car factory product in Zaporozhye, the car that is to succeed the old and outdated Zaporozhets. We would like to make this car jointly with Hungary and Bulgaria. There is a great shortage of cars in your country and also in Bulgaria, and that is why this solution has come into being. The modern Zaporozhets, which are of a completely new construction, will be tried out and tested prior to manufacture here in Hungary. If the engineers and the car experts are satisfied with this car, we will make it jointly. Each country will assemble the main parts manufactured in the Soviet Union and in the other two countries. As yet, we do not have much experience of such cooperation, but this is what must be urged, because it could be an important way of production joint venture. Apart from this, there also figures in our plans a similar expansion of radio-technology cooperation. We must also deal with video technology, since demand is growing extremely fast. This is why a joint manufacture, or joint planning, development seems to be profitable in this area too. We must seek solutions for satisfying every consumer demand.

PRAVDA REPORTS CONCLUSION OF YELTSIN SOFIA TRIP

PM300841 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Apr 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading: "Sofia Visit"]

[Text] Sofia, 26 Apr -- A Moscow CPSU Gorkom delegation headed by B.N. Yeltsin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, left for home today. The delegation had been visiting Sofia at the invitation of the Sofia BCP City Committee.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by the following: Chudomir Aleksandrov, Politburo member and BCP Central committee secretary; Dimitur Stanishev, BCP Central Committee secretary; and Ivan Panev, BCP Central Committee member and Sofia BCP City Committee first secretary.

The sendoff party included L.I. Grekov, USSR ambassador to Bulgaria. The delegation headed by B.N. Yeltsin arrived in Moscow the same day.

P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and other officials met the delegation on its arrival at the airport.

G. Pankov, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR, was among the welcoming party.

CSSR'S STROUGAL CABLES RYZHKOV EN ROUTE TO PRC

PM300851 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 April 87 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "From Aboard Aircraft"]

[Text] As he was overflying the Soviet Union en route to the PRC, CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal sent a telegram to N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, which says:

"I take this opportunity to express feelings of sincere, inviolable friendship uniting our peoples."

"Our all-around fraternal cooperation is also becoming increasingly close in the conditions of the restructuring of our national economies and the increase in the level of collaboration among socialist countries. The recent talks between our Communist Parties' general secretaries have given our relations a new stimulus and further helped consolidate the traditional unity of views and actions.

"Allow me to wish you, the USSR Council of Ministers, and the entire Soviet people all the best and great success in building your magnificent motherland, in developing V.I. Lenin's everlasting behests, and in enriching socialism with new life-giving impulses for the purposes of accelerating socioeconomic development."

SOVIET WARSHIPS ON 'OFFICIAL FRIENDLY' VISIT TO GDR

PM301303 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Apr 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS and special correspondent Captain 3d Rank I. Anferteyev report: "Soviet Seamen in the GDR"]

[Text] Berlin, 25 Apr -- A reception for representatives of the group of Soviet warships currently on an official friendly visit to the port of Rostock has been held at the GDR Ministry of National Defense. A conversation took place between defense and chief of the Main Staff, and Vice Admiral V.P. Ivanof, commander of the Baltic Fleet. Taking part in the conversation were Colonel General H. Bruenner, GDR deputy minister of national defense and chief of the GDR National People's Army Main Political Administration, and Admiral W. Ehm, GDR deputy minister of national defense and commander of the GDR People's Navy.

On the same day the delegation of Soviet seamen laid a wreath at the memorial to the liberating Soviet servicemen in Berlin's Treptow Park.

Rostock, 25 Apr -- The crews of the group of Soviet warships consisting of the missile cruiser Groznyy and the frigate Svirepyy under the flag of Vice Admiral V.P. Ivanov, commander of the Baltic Fleet, currently on an official friendly visit here, continue to acquaint themselves with the city. The Soviet Navy men visited the local shipyard and other industrial enterprises, inspected the local sports and technical training center, and participated in a sports competition.

Ships Depart

PM011327 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Apr 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS and special correspondent Captain 3d Rank I. Anfertyev report: "Home to Native Shores"]

[Text] Rostock, 29 Apr -- The official friendly visit to the port of Rostock (GDR) by a detachment of Soviet warships, including the missile cruiser Groznyy and the patrol ship Svirepyy under the flag of Vice Admiral V.P. Ivanov, commander of the twice Red Banner Baltic fleet, has ended. Hundreds of Rostock inhabitants and members of the National People's Army came to the port to see off the Baltic seamen. The farewell ceremony was attended by Admiral W. Ehm, GDR deputy national defense minister and chief of the People's Navy Command, and other officials. The Soviet warships departed for their native shores.

CHIRAC, KOHL MEET ON SOVIET ARMS PROPOSALS

LD032131 Moscow TASS in English 2033 GMT 3 May 87

[Text] Bonn May 3 TASS -- Prime Mininster Jacques Chirac of France and Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany met in Strausbourg, eastern France, today.

According to the West German news agency DPA, they tried to work out a common position on the Soviet proposals for the elimination of medium-range and shorter-range missiles in Europe.

Chirac and Kohl, DPA reported, came out in favour of Soviet-American accords that would remove medium-range missiles from Europe first.

After the meeting the West German chancellor expressed the hope that talks on the "zero option" proper would soon begin, that verification problems would be solved and a relevant treaty would be concluded.

Prime Minister Chirac said that France had supported the proposal on the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe.

As to the shorter-range missiles, the DPA described the position of the sides as rather restrained. Kohl and Chirac said they had no sufficient information on the matter and needed detailed consultations with the United States and the European NATO allies.

PRAVDA VIEWS FRG ARGUMENTS IN EUROMISSILE DEBATE

PM011225 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 May 87 Second Edition p 5

[Correspondent Yu. Yakhontov dispatch: "Arguing on the Rhine..."]

[Text] Bonn, 30 Apr -- FRG ruling circles currently see the desire to work out a unified position with regard to the Soviet proposals on both medium-range missiles in Europe and on operational and tactical weapons on the continent as their main foreign policy task.

The question of the attitude to medium-range missiles does not produce any particular dissension, at least at the moment. Experience suggests, however, that it is hard to predict what the situation will be like tomorrow, since, whenever it is a question of Soviet disarmament proposals, the opinions and positions of the ruling circles here often change.

Currently, all the objections from the leaders of the CDU/CSU [Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union] bloc and its parliamentary faction are focused against M.S. Gorbachev's recent proposal on expanding the "zero option" and examining the question of withdrawing and scrapping operational and tactical missiles. The proposal is opposed by faction chairman A. Dregger, his deputy V. Ruehe, and FRG Defense Minister M. Woerner.

Citing what they claim to be the Soviet Union's threefold superiority in conventional arms, they do not want to permit even the idea of a nonnuclear Europe or to give up the U.S. nuclear shield. [paragraph continues]

The explanation of such a diehard stance (there is no other word for it) lies not so much in the USSR's "superiority," as in the intention to win for themselves -- that is, for the West -- the right to "arms upgrading" in the sphere of operational and tactical missiles. But, as the Bonn newspaper GENERAL ANZEIGER wrote, the Soviet proposals do not undermine NATO'S deterrence capability, since the bloc will continue to have a "wide range of sea-, ground-, and air-launched missile weapons, cruise missiles, missile-carrying aircraft and nuclear artillery" at its disposal.

Foreign Minister H.-D. Genscher is convinced that it is necessary to approach the Soviet proposals seriously. The same view is held by the Free Democratic faction in the Bundestag headed by W. Mischnick, who believes that the proposals to scrap operational and tactical missiles should not be brushed aside but studied without any prejudice.

Former Federal Chancellor H. Schmidt stated in an interview with the newspaper MUENCHER ABENDZEITUNG that it is stupid to link the "zero option" on medium-range missiles in Europe with the problem of imbalance in the conventional arms sphere. The East's superiority in this area existed long before NATO adopted the "two-track decision" (that is, before 1979), and it has not changed since.

In short, the disagreement in the Bonn political hierarchy is graphic testimony that the CDU/CSU leadership does not want the "zero option" for operational and tactical missiles and does not want to scrap battlefield tactical missiles. And the references to Soviet superiority are just a convenient smoke screen for the opponents of disarmament to prevent the withdrawal of nuclear weapons from Europe and to implement arms upgrading plans.

ITALY'S ANDREOTTI ON ARMS CONTROL, EAST-WEST TIES

PM280915 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Apr 87 p 14

["Press Club" interview with Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti by LITERATURNAYA GAZETA political observer F. Burlatskiy: "Giulio Andreotti: 'We Have a High Opinion of Gorbachev's Policy'"]

[Text] Rome -- [Burlatskiy] Mr Andreotti, as you know, the Soviet Union has recently put forward many initiatives to develop cooperation with Western countries in the disarmament sphere and in the economic and social fields in the spirit of new thinking. What are Italy's stance, interests, and goals in this process?

[Andreotti] Cooperation between Italy and the USSR has, I would say, been developing very well for a long time. In most recent times the Soviet leadership's policy within the country and in the international arena has facilitated this work. I would like to say that not only Mrs Thatcher, but we in Italy also have a high opinion of M. Gorbachev's policy. We believe that we, the Western countries, must for our part take important steps to develop dialogue on problems of peace and cooperation.

We are already seeing the first results in the dialogue process -- not only in blocking the arms race, but in starting effective arms reduction. Of course, there are many difficulties in the way and it is not easy changing the political line and political development in the world. But possibilities have arisen for overcoming these difficulties. This applies above all to our common work in the sphere of eliminating medium-range missiles in Europe. The problem of short-range missiles -- an area in which the Soviet Union has an advantage -- is also of great importance. As a matter of fact, there are two possible approaches to this problem. [Paragraph continues]

One is for the United States to increase the number of short-range missiles to the Soviet level. The other is for the Soviet Union to reduce the number of missiles it has.

We attach great significance to the changes taking place inside the Soviet Union. For example, what happened in the case of Academician Sakharov meant that a serious argument had disappeared in the polemics between East and West.

Gestures by the Soviet Government regarding Jewish emigration and the opening of a consulate would be of considerable significance. This would remove the causes of friction and improve the psychological climate. The great step forward you have taken creates the possibility of holding an international conference on the Near East.

[Burlatskiy] There is a definite political asymmetry between the Soviet leadership's new thinking and new policy and our Western partners' position. Do the Western countries, above all the U.S. Administration, have the political will to reach agreements? This question arises in particular because a series of conditions which could inhibit the talks process, in particular on short-range missiles and new forms of verification, have been put forward in response to the Soviet proposal on a zero option for medium-range missiles in Europe.

[Andreotti] My answer is, yes, the West, including the United States, has the will to conclude agreements on the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe. I believe also that it would be constructive to decide to freeze the installation of new short-range missiles and start conventional arms cuts. But, in my view, they ought not to be an obstacle at talks on medium-range missiles. Of course, there are people who still claim that the Soviet Union in fact does not want effective verification. But I think that recently the USSR has taken important steps in this sphere. It was a wise decision by the Soviet leadership to single out the question of the French and British nuclear missile potential. In my PRAVDA interview I said that in my view, when agreements have been reached between the USSR and the United States on disarmament problems, agreements relating to French and British missiles will also be possible. I was panned for this here, in Western Europe. But they were mistaken. Two years ago President F. Mitterrand said that the time would come to tackle these questions too.

[Burlatskiy] I have the impression that at least some countries in Western Europe which previously expressed particular concern in connection with SS-20 missiles and vigorously backed the zero option on medium-range missiles are now not only failing to encourage, but are in fact curbing the U.S. Administration's movement toward agreements with the USSR on this issue. What is the Italian Government's stance?

[Andreotti] We support the line formulated in Reykjavik and we are against keeping medium-range missiles on our continent. What they are saying in Europe is not quite what you said. They are saying that the autonomous defense of Western Europe must be seen to. If anyone had said after World War II that there would be 250,000 U.S. soldiers in Europe for 40 years, he would have been thought mad. But now it is not just a matter of accelerating the withdrawal of U.S. forces. Nor is it a matter of replacing U.S. forces with European forces. Personally I believe that, when it was concluded in Helsinki that the United States and Canada would participate in the solution of European problems, it was an intelligent gesture reflecting historical development.

[Burlatskiy] But I would like to have a clearer picture of what contribution Western Europe itself could make to the solution of problems of cooperation on our continent.

[Andreotti] I believe it could be made in two areas. First: Developing relations between CEMA and the Common Market, in such a way, of course, that it does not hinder bilateral relations but adds something to them. Second: Focusing efforts on cooperation in the scientific and humanitarian sphere -- in joint investigation and research. The agreements concluded within the framework of a "World Laboratory" are an important step forward on this path, as indeed is the seminar on nuclear research.

As you know, we have put forward a slogan: "Scientists' Republic" -- science without frontiers and without secrets. It is necessary oopen up laboratories and create new opportunities for the exchange of knowledge. Conditions whereby any scientist from any country can cross any border unhindered and meet with his colleagues.

[Burlatskiy] An understanding has been reached on a visit to Italy by M.S. Gorbachev, which both sides believe would play a big part in developing Soviet-Italian relations. What is the situation regarding the Italian side's position in present conditions?

[Andreotti] We are going through a difficult period. I hope that we will be able to overcome the political crisis before the summer. We are confident that we will be able to receive M. Gorbachev some time this year. I hope M. Gorbachev will make the visit.

[Burlatskiy] How can the political crisis in Italy be overcome and when?

[Andreotti] We wanted to achieve agreements to enable parliament to continue operating until the end of its term. But we have failed to reach an agreement with Italian Socialist Party leader B. Craxi. No doubt everyone is equally to blame for the situation.

I believe that an early election will change nothing as far as the different parties' positions are concerned, which would not make the problem of an agreement any easier. I believe that temperament has a big part to play here. I am a Roman, so I am a calmer person, perhaps. Of course, we will find a way, just as we have found a way over the last 40 years, fully in line with the principles of our constitution.

[Burlatskiy] Have you anything to say to the readers of LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, to all Soviet people?

[Andreotti] I would like to see our countries come closer and closer together and to see this rapprochement not only occur at government level, but extend more and more widely to the people's masses. I would like to give you a small personal souvenir that I ordered myself: It is a Roman cat, a symbol of goodness and humanity. I ordered this symbol for the very reason that during the war and the occupation we ate all the cats, and Italians now have particularly tender feelings for the animal.

VASILYEV ON ISRAEL'S OBJECTION TO CONFERENCE

LD291413 Moscow TASS in English 1233 GMT 29 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 29 TASS -- TASS commentator Grigoriy Vasilyev writes:

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir again flatly rejected a proposal on calling a representative international conference in the Middle East at negotiations with French leaders in Paris. The Israeli "hawk" confirmed Tel Aviv's obstructionist stand showing that Israel continues blocking the way to a Middle East settlement and frustrates all efforts taken in this direction.

The idea of holding an international forum under the U.N. aegis to reach, at long last, a settlement of one of the oldest and most dangerous conflicts of our times has won such a broad backing in the world that even the United States started hypocritically playing up to the idea in the recent past. It is self-evident that the stubbornness of the Israeli ruling Zionist quarters places them even in greater isolation in the international arena and creates a real threat to the vital interests of the Israeli people.

Indicative is also another thing. Tel Aviv incessantly bawls about PLO "terrorists" and "extremism" of this organization which stands allegedly in the way of peace in the Middle East. But the session of the Palestinian National Council which ended recently in Algiers, unequivocally favoured the earliest convocation of an international Mid-East forum, showing again Palestinians' desire for taking an active part in a collective search for a just and all-embracing settlement in the region.

Thus, the matter in question is not the PLO's "extremism" but Tel Aviv's old unwillingness to deal with Palestinian Arabs, forcibly deprived of their homeland. Israel continues disregarding their legitimate and inalienable right to national self-determination and establishment of their own independent state.

SYRIAN PAPER CITED ON AL-ASAD MOSCOW TALKS

PM301709 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "To Achieve Peace in the Near East"]

[Excerpt] Newspapers in various countries are broadly commenting on the Soviet-Syrian talks and the meeting between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Ba'th Party and Syrian president. The speeches delivered by M.S. Gorbachev and H. al-Asad at a dinner in the Kremlin have been published.

The Damascus newspaper AL-THAWRAH notes that the successful, constructive Soviet-Syrian talks are a new contribution to the strengthening of cooperation between the two friendly countries in all spheres and also to the struggle to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Near East and restore the flouted rights of the Arab people of Palestine. We regard H. al-Asad's warm meeting in Moscow and the great attention paid to our delegation by the Soviet leaders as acknowledgement of the successes achieved in building a new Syria.

The importance of the talks in Moscow, AL-THAWRAH continues, is determined by the complexity of the current situation in the Near East and the fact that imperialism and Zionism have increased their overt pressure on the Arab peoples. Syria is withstanding these attacks and waging a steadfast struggle against the expansionist plans of imperialism and Zionism in this region.

This role played by Syria is correctly appraised by the forces of freedom and progress throughout the world and primarily by our friend, the USSR, with which Syria is linked by strong bonds of friendship and cooperation. This friendship is an example of honest international relations, which today have become the main support in the struggle being waged by all peoples and forces of progress against the enemies of freedom. [passage omitted]

CURRENT ISSUES IN UAE REPORTED IN IZVESTIYA

PM301017 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Report by special correspondents K. Geyvandov and B. Shevchenko: "Along the Green Roads of the Emirates"]

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi-Moscow -- [Passage omitted] In 15 years of existence, the United Arab Emirates [UAE] has assumed a firm place in the world community of nations and is seeking to play a constructive role in international affairs at a regional level, as a member of the Gulf Cooperation Council, and at a global level, having, for instance, been elected in early 1986 as one of the UN Security Council's nonpermanent members for a 2-year term. The government emphasizes its adherence to the Nonaligned Movement and confirms loyalty to its principles: opposing interference of other powers in Persian Gulf states' affairs and the offering of these countries' territories for foreign military bases and favoring the transformation of the entire vast Indian Ocean zone into a region of peace and cooperation.

To these questions, which were discussed in one way or another during our meetings and talks in the UAE, the acute subjects of the Iran-Iraq war and the Mideast crisis were invariably added. And this is natural inasmuch as, being an Arab country, the federation is struggling for the speediest resolution of these dangerous regional conflicts by peaceful political means. In this area all our interlocutors, highly assessing the position of the Soviet Union on these problems, urged the USSR not to slacken but, if possible, to increase its efforts to end the war between Iran and Iraq and to achieve a just Mideast settlement. We do not trust the West in resolving these questions, we were told, but we very much hope for your support.

Our talk with Ahmad ibn Hamid Al Nuhayyan, UAE minister of information and culture, followed approximately the same lines. This is what he said:

"We welcomed with satisfaction the establishment of diplomatic relations between our countries in late 1985. It is a good thing that the UAE and the USSR have been rapidly establishing political, cultural, and economic ties and that we area ready to develop them in every way in our peoples' mutual interests. We approve the positions taken by the Soviet Government on questions of war and peace, and we support its initiatives to create a nuclear-free, nonviolent world."

In the first days of our stay in Abu Dhabi it became known that on the eve of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our countries, the representatives of some Western powers tried to dissuade the UAE representatives from this step, drawing pictures of the terrible misfortunes that would allegedly descend on their heads with the opening of a Soviet Embassy. But they heard the reasonable response: If that is so strange, why do the Western powers accept the diplomatic missions of the socialist countries? The peoples of the Arab countries have become the masters of their own destinies and have learned from their own experience how to work out who are their enemies and who their true friends and allies. We were convinced of this in the few days we spent in the UAE.

OUTCOME OF PNC SESSION IN ALGIERS DISCUSSED

PM301339 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Apr 87 Second Edition p 6

[TASS report: "Session Over"]

[Text] Algiers, 26 Apr -- The Palestine National Council (PNC) session ended in the Algerian capital yesterday. For 6 days representatives of leading Palestinian organizations discussed ways of restoring the resistance movement's unity and increasing the struggle of the Arab people of Palestine for their national rights. The decisions made stress the importance of rallying Palestinian ranks on an antimilitarist basis. The participants confirmed the PLO's rejection of Camp David-type capitulatory deals and supported the proposal to hold an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of the five UN Security Council permanent members and all interested parties, including the PLO.

The documents welcome the support given to the Palestinian people by the socialist states, headed by the Soviet Union, and express a desire to continue to strengthen relations with those countries. They express support for the USSR's constructive initiatives for security disarmament and delivering mankind from the threat of nuclear war and the PNC's intention of making efforts to turn the Mediterranean into a nuclear-free zone.

Yasir 'Arafat was elected chairman of the PLO Executive Committee at the PNC closing session. Fifteen people were elected Executive Committee members. Among the newly elected members was Sulayman al-Najjab, deputy secretary general of the Palestinian Communist Party.

IRGC'S 'HUNT' FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES CRITICIZED

NC241442 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian to Iran 1530 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] On the orders of the Iranian leaders, units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] have launched a real hunt for Afghans who want to return to their homeland. Recently, revolution guards formed a chain at four points and blocked the road from Afghan families heading for their homeland from Mashhad and Birjand. Thousands of people who have reacted positively to Kabul's call for national reconciliation have been arrested near Torbat-e Jam and (Taldaran). Many of them have been harassed mercilessly and thrown into concentration camps.

The persecution of Afghans who believe salvation from the adversities they suffer in a foreign country lies in their return to their homeland has become one of the methods of suppression used by the IRGC, which serves the present regime. This is the outcome of the changes in Iran. After the victory of the antimonarchist revolution, the influence of those opposed to the ideas of this revolution, who could not tolerate the smallest manifestation of free thought or democracy, began to dominate. These circles feel a maniacal hatred toward Democratic Afghanistan. They do not refrain from using any means they can to hide the reality of developments in Afghanistan, because a comparison of the policies of Afghanistan and Iran is not in their favor. In Afghanistan, the revolutionary gains of the people are persistently defended and the necessary measures are being taken to improve the workers living conditions, enable democracy to grow, and consolidate peace and security within the country and abroad. In Iran, the ideas of the popular and anti-imperialist revolution have been trampled on. Antidemocratic laws govern the country.

The meaningless war with Iraq, which has cost both sides many deaths and great destruction, has been going on for 7 and 1/2 years. An expression by the people of dissatisfaction with this policy is pitilessly crushed. The IRGC has turned into a major weapon for suppressing popular protests. It now defends the monarchs rather than the deprived, large capitalists rather than the destitute, and the oppressors rather than the oppressed. Obviously, one of its duties is to impede the process of national reconciliation in Afghanistan.

However, the revolution guards have not always been what they are now. Their movement was formed after the popular and anti-imperialist revolution to defend the revolution's gains against imperialist and reactionary provocations, and it became a powerful force of the revolutionary masses. In later states the enemies of the revolution, by purging the force and selecting its members carefully, succeeded in brainwashing it and instilling into it a nouveau-riche mentality, for their own purposes. These methods are still being used today, apparently because the Iranian leaders suspect the revolution guards may have an impartial attitude toward the Afghans who want to return to their homeland and play their part in the construction of a peaceful and prosperous future. It seems there are such people among the revolution guards. These are the ones who want to have the honor of being the true guards of a true revolution, and these are the ones who can find ways to help the Afghan refugees -- not to mention their own compatriots. But we will not say anything more about this.

ALGERIAN DEFENSE MINISTRY AIDE CONTINUES VISIT

PM271115 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Apr 87 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Visit Continues"]

[Text] On 22 April, General H. Cheloufi, secretary general of the Algerian Ministry of National Defense, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Ministry of Defense, visited the Marshal of the Soviet Union R.Ya. Malinovskiy Military Academy of Armored Troops. The Algerian guest was briefed on the teaching materials section and the organization of the teaching process. Explanations were given by Colonel General V.M. Gordiyenko, chief of the academy.

Gen M. Cheloufi was accompanied by Colonel General of Aviation I.M. Maltsev.

Concludes Visit 24 Apr

PM301057 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Apr 87 First Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Visit Concluded"]

[Text] On 24 April, General M. Cheloufi, secretary general of the Algerian Ministry of National Defense, who has been in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Defense Ministry, left Moscow.

The guest was seen off at the capital's Sheremetevo Airport by Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister, and by generals, admirals, and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces. A. Fedal, Algerian ambassador to the USSR, was among those present.

An honor guard was formed in honor of the high-ranking guest. Gen M. Cheloufi received a report from the honor guard chief and inspected the Soviet troop lineup.

FURTHER DETAILS ON FRONTLINE DELEGATIONS' VISIT

Holds News Conference

LD301118 Moscow TASS in English 1053 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 30 TASS -- Witness Mangwende, minister of foreign affairs of Zimbabwe, said at a press conference here today held by a group of representatives of Frontline Countries that their talks in European socialist countries had been extremely useful and constructive. The representatives of Frontline States of southern Africa had come to Moscow for a short working visit. They had visited as well the GDR, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland.

On behalf of the group Luke Mwananshiku, minister of foreign affairs of Zambia, expressed gratitude to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, for the hearty welcome accorded to them. He pointed out that during their visit to the USSR a fruitful exchange of views had been held on a wide range of international problems, specifically, on the situation in the south of Africa.

Fernando Jose Franca Dias van-Dunem, minister of justice of Angola, expressed high appreciation of cooperation between socialist and Frontline Countries. He pointed out that the socialist countries had rendered assistance to countries of that region during their struggle for independence and continued to do it today.

According to Benjamin Mkapa, minister of foreign affairs of Tanzania, the support for the Pretoria regime on the part of western powers and primarily the U.S. is the main obstacle on the way to the dismantling of the apartheid system in south Africa and the granting of independence to Namibia. This manifests itself, in the first place, by their refusal to impose comprehensive and mandatory sanctions on South Africa and by their support for the actions taken by the Pretoria regime with a view to destabilizing the situation in the Frontline Countries.

Participants in the press conference emphasized that apartheid was a crime against humanity. Peoples of the south of Africa come out for both peaceful and armed forms of struggle against it, for the creation of a multiracial democratic society in South Africa.

The only way to a peaceful settlement of the South African problems is the imposing of effective sanctions on the Pretoria regime. However, Western countries which hypocritically pose as defenders of human rights actually oppose such measures. Enormous profits are of more importance to them than democracy, freedom or the right of nations to decide their destinies by themselves.

Meets With Shevardnadze

LD291308 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1144 GMT 29 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, 29 Apr (TASS) -- Talks were held today between Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, and a group of representatives of the Frontline States of southern Africa, which has come to Moscow on a brief working visit. The delegation comprises Mwananshiku, Zambian minister of foreign affairs; Mangwende, Zimbabwe's minister of foreign affairs; Mkapa, Tanzanian minister of foreign affairs; Fernando Franca van Dunem, Angolan minister of justice; and Mbanze, Mozambican deputy minister of foreign affairs.

During the exchange of opinions on the international situation today, it was established that the basis of the present dangerous tension is the policy being conducted by imperialism, leading to an arms race, the continuation of dangerous hotbeds of conflicts in various parts of the globe, and further deepening of the crisis in international economic relations.

Conviction was expressed that true improvement in the international climate can only occur as a result of transition to using constructive approaches to questions of curbing the arms race, preventing it from moving into space, a just settlement of regional conflicts, and safeguarding the peoples' right to decide their own fate. Stress was placed on the importance of restructuring international economic relations on a just and democratic basis.

Ministers of the Frontline States expressed support for the peaceful initiatives of the Soviet Union aimed at eliminating the threat of nuclear catastrophe, stopping the arms race, and at disarmament as well as at radically improving the current international situation and creating a nuclear free world.

Fundamental attention during the conversation was paid to the situation in the south of Africa. The views of the sides on this issue fully coincided. It was noted that an acute and explosive situation which leaves a negative imprint on the international situation as a whole has come about and still prevails in the southern African region.

It was stressed that the basic reason for the conflict in the region in question is the existence in the Republic of South Africa of the apartheid regime -- a disgraceful system which tramples on all the norms of morality common to all mankind and the generally accepted principles of international relations.

Those participating in the meeting agreed that genuine peace and stability in the south of Africa can be guaranteed on the following conditions: First, if the Republic of South Africa's aggression against the Frontline States and other neighboring states ends completely; second, if the problem of decolonization and granting of genuine independence to the people of Namibia is resolved immediately in accordance with the well known UN decisions; and third, if the inhumane system of apartheid in the Republic of South Africa is eliminated.

The Soviet side confirmed its unwavering solidarity with the Frontline States, subject as they are to both direct and indirect aggression -- using armed gangs in Angola and Mozambique and criminal groups in Zambia and Zimbabwe -- on the part of the racist Republic of South Africa, which is striving to destablize the situation in these countries and to undermine their economies. Resolute condemnation was made of the Pretoria racists' recent criminal attack on independent Zambia which cost human lives.

The participants in the meeting stated their resolve to continue in future to give broad support to national liberation movements in the Republic of South Africa and Namibia under the leadership of the African National Congress and SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization].

Eduard Shevardnadze stressed that the Soviet Union advocates stepping up the collective search for ways to a just political settlement in the southern African region, involving participation by all who in deeds and not just words desire freedom, justice, and peace in this part of Africa, and also involving the utilization of all the possibilities offered by the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, and the OAU. It goes without saying that such a settlement should accord wholly with the interests of the independent African states.

The ministers of the Frontline States expressed sincere gratitude to the government and people of the Soviet Union for their support for the efforts of the independent countries of the southern African region in standing up for their independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity and also for their selfless economic aid and their solidarity with the national liberation forces' struggle against the remnants of colonialism and racism in Africa.

The sides noted the usefulness of the talks held, which took place in an atmosphere of friendship and full mutual understanding.

Departs Moscow 30 Apr

LD301702 Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 30 TASS -- Representatives of southern African "Frontline" states left Moscow today.

Foreign Ministers Luke Mwananshiku of Zimbia, Witness Mangwende of Zimbabwe and Benjamin Mkapa of Tanzania, Angolan Justice Minister Fernando Jose Franca Dias Van-Dunen and Mozambican Deputy Foreign Minister Daniel Saul Mbanze stayed in the USSR on a brief working visit to exchange views on the situation in southern Africa.

They were seen off at the airport by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Leonid Ilichev and other officials.

The send-off party also included the USSR-based ambassadors of Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Angola and Mozambique.

'SIGNS OF WARMTH' NOTED IN RELATIONS WITH SOMALIA

EA011506 Moscow International Service in Somali 1600 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Georgiy Tanshin Commentary]

[Text] It is well remembered in Somalia that during the era of cooperation with the USSR the economy of Somalia grew and developed as a result of this cooperation. During that era the construction of industries, assisted both in capital and equipment by the USSR, took place. This cooperation also contributed to social development in Somalia. Schools, hospitals, and the national press were constructed. Hundreds of Somali boys and girls studied in higher institutions in the USSR while others gained experience.

However, the cold that descended on the relations between the two countries destroyed most of these benefits. Ten years after this cold descended on bilateral relations, signs of warmth are now being felt. The USSR has always felt love for the Somali people. We think it is because of this that the talks which have started once again have borne tangible fruits. The USSR attended the international trade fair held in Mogadishu. Contacts between the two sides on resuming some of the agreements are also taking place. It can be seen by all that these steps are just the beginning. As the Somalis say, a small path leads to the big road.

SHEVARDNADZE WELCOMES MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTER

LD031716 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 3 May 87

[Text] Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda arrived in Moscow today on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

He was met at the airport by Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, and other officials.

ORTEGA DELIVERS ADDRESS AT U.S. CITIZEN'S FUNERAL

LD011644 Moscow TASS in English 1444 GMT 1 May 87

[Text] Managua May 1 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Trushin reports:

The churches in the Nicaraguan city of Matagalpa dolefully rang their bells in midday last Thursday in memory of U.S. internationalist Benjamin Linder who was villainously killed by CIA hired terrorists. The funeral of the American, who arrived in Nicaragua four years ago from the city of Portland, Oregon, to assist the Republic to hold out in the face of the U.S. aggression, was held in the centreal square of Matagalpa.

Addressing a funeral meeting, President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua said:

The bells in Nicaragua are tolling today the death of Linder as well as of internationalists from France, Belgium, West Germany and Spain who also fell victim to the United States' aggressive policy.

This solemn ring of the funeral bells is a reminder of 40,000 Nicaraguans who perished at the hands of Somozista mercenaries.

The contras who killed Benjamin Linder fulfilled the order of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, the Nicaraguan leader went on. This American internationalist was the bearer of moral values of the United States' people who have nothing in common with the illegal policy of the Reagan administration which arms hired Somozista assassins. We demand that Washington stop aggressive actions against Nicaragua and embark on the road of a peaceful settlement of the crisis in Central America, Ortega stressed.

The Reagan administration is held responsible for the death of U.S. engineer Benjamin Linder who fell at the hands of contras in Nicaragua, Andrew Young, mayor of Atlanta, former permanent representative of the United States to the United Nations Organisation, told the meeting. He arrived in the Nicaraguan city of Matagalpa for the funeral of his fellow citizen.

Young told journalists that the U.S. Government spent U.S. taxpayers money on waging an immoral and dirty war against the Nicaraguan people, the war which was doomed to failure. The blood shed by Linder will possibly make the Americans realize that their ideals are the ideals of Benjamin Linder rather than Ronald Reagan, Young said.

U.S. 'AGGRESSION' AGAINST NICARAGUA VIEWED

LD011421 Moscow TASS in English 0908 GMT 1 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 1 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Anatoliy Medvedenko writes:

There are many dates in the history of Nicaragua that deal with the courageous struggle waged for many decades by the people of that small Central American country for the liberation from U.S. domination. And still, the date of May 4, 1927 is of special significance. On that day 60 years ago Augusto Cesar Sandino rejected the ultimatum of U.S. invaders insisting that Nicaraguans lay down arms and thus reconcile themselves to the occupation. Instead, Sandino started a war for the liberation of his country.

The struggle continued for about 6 years. On January 2, 1933 the last American soldier left Nicaragua. However, that time, the same as on many other occasions in the history of that much-suffering country, Americans went away hoping to return. They had ground for such hopes: There remained in Nicaragua in the national guard headed by Anastasio Somoza which had been fondled [as received] by Washington. It is Somoza and his clan who are at fault for trampling underfoot the freedom won by Sandino. Somoza directly participated in the U.S.-sponsored treacherous murder of the national hero of Nicaragua.

As though feeling that he would die soon, Sandino said shortly before his death: "I shall perish in a short while, but these boys will live. They will continue the struggle that we started. Glorious deeds are awaiting them". Those words proved to be prophetic. The struggle started by Sandino was taken up by the boys he was speaking about. Today it is being waged by the sons of those boys who call themselves Sandinistas. The U.S., one of the most powerful imperialist countries both from the military and economic point of view, has been waging an undeclared war for six years already against that tiny Central American country. During his period 40,000 Nicaraguans have fallen victim to the policy of state terrorism pursued by Washington. Over 250,000 peasants were forced to flee their native lands because of criminal actions of terrorists. However, today the U.S. is as far from reaching their target as on the day when it decided to overthrow the Sandinista government by force of arms.

In an attempt to justify its aggression against Nicaragua, Washington tries to convince the world public of some non-existent danger allegedly coming from revolutionary Nicaragua. However, facts show that it is the other way about. During 150 years of the existence of Nicaragua the threat has always been coming from the U.S. This was proved by the developments of 1855, 1910, 1912 and 1927 when Americans invaded Nicaragua. They stated there for a total of 20 years. This policy of gangsterism is going on today. However, time has changed, and Nicaragua is courageously defending its independence.

ZAKHAROV DELEGATION MEETS COLOMBIAN ACTIVISTS

PM011317 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "CPSU Delegation's Visit"]

[Text] Bogota, 30 Apr -- The CPSU delegation here at the invitation of the Communist Party of Colombia [PCC] leadership has met with activists from the Colombian United Trade Union Center -- the country's largest trade union association. Hernando Rodriguez, member of the Colombian United Trade Union Center leadership, greeted the Soviet guests on behalf of Colombia's trade unions and working people.

Speaking at the meeting, V.A. Zakharov, head of the Soviet delegation, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee, and first secretary of Kalmyk CPSU Obkom, spoke about the reforms taking place in the USSR's economy and about the activities of trade union, youth, and other social organizations in the Soviet Union. The CPSU delegation members answered numerous questions from the participants on the restructuring process taking place in the USSR.

The same day the CPSU delegation met with activists from the capital's PCC party organization. Akharov briefed them on the tasks facing the Soviet people in light of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum, and on the measures being taken by the CPSU to boost the economy and further democratize Soviet society.

CPSU SENDS CONDOLENCES TO CUBA ON BLAS ROCA DEATH

PM011815 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Apr 87 Second Edition p 1

[CPSU Central Committee message: "To the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee" -- date not given]

[Text] Dear Comrades!

It was with profound sorrow that we learned of the death of Blas Roca, an eminent Cuban politician and statesman, international communist movement veteran, and member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee.

For more than a quarter of a century, beginning in the mid-thirties, Blas Roca led the Cuban Communists, which were selflessly struggling for the working people's interests and the social and national liberation of the Cuban people. After the Cuban revolution's victory, he made a great contribution to uniting the country's revolutionary forces under Fidel Castro's leadership. One of Cuba's party and state leaders for many years, Blas Roca devoted his considerable energy, profound knowledge, and many years of experience to the cause of building socialism.

Soviet Communists will remember Blas Roca as a true friend of the Soviet Union who invariably advocated the comprehensive strengthening and development of Soviet-Cuban relations.

Expressing our feelings of profound condolence at this loss, we ask you to convey them also to the deceased's relatives and friends.

CUBA'S RODRIGUEZ IN MOSCOW FOR CEMA MEETING

FL271335 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of State and of the government, arrived yesterday in Moscow to attend a CEMA meeting. The Cuban leader will also head our country's delegation to the meeting of the Cuban-Soviet intergovernmental commission for scientific-technical cooperation. The meeting is slated for Wednesday.

SEVERAL CEREMONIES MARK MAY DAY FESTIVITIES

TASS Describes Red Square

LD010609 Moscow TASS in English 0603 GMT 1 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 1 TASS -- A festive May Day demonstration began in Red Square, the heart of celebrations on the international holiday of working people, today, with columns of Muscovites representing the city's work collectives streaming to the cobblestone plaza from all parts of the capital.

They are being greeted from Lenin's Mausoleum by Mikhail Gorbachev, Andrey Gromyko, Nikolay Ryzhkov and other Soviet leaders.

The guests in Red Square include party and other veterans who have distinguished themselves building socialism in the Soviet Union, prominent military leaders and World War II veterans, go-ahead workers, leading scientists and cultural personalities.

Others in the reviewing stands including numerous foreign guests invited to attend May Day festivities in Moscow and diplomats accredited in this country.

TV Carries Celebration Parade

LD011028 [Editorial report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0540 GMT on 1 May 87 carries 2 and 1/2 hours of live coverage of the May Day celebrations from Moscow's Red Square. The video begins by showing crowds in Red Square and formations preparing to participate in the civilian parade. The announcer interviews several local people taking part in the parade.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Andrey Gromyko are then seen on the mausoleum, walking and waving to the crowd, with Gorbachev in the lead. Gorbachev and Gromyko walk to the end of the mausoleum, salute, then walk back to the center. The video then shows a distant shot of the leaders.

Next, flowers are presented to the leaders, with Gorbachev seen speaking to a child. The video then shows, from left to right, Gromyko, Gorbachev, Ryzhkov, Ligachev, and Solomentsev.

The parade of workers then begins, with ranks of people with banners passing through the square and other displayed shown on floats. Interviews are then shown with various workers, and groups are again seen passing through the square.

Next, the video shows the rostrum, with the following leaders, seen from right to left: Kapitonov, Nikonov, Lukyanov, Medvedev, Biryukova, Talyzin, Slyunkov, Dolgikh, Yeltsin, Aliyev, Vorotnikov, Shevardnadze, Solomentsev, Ligachev, Ryzhkov, Gorbachev, Gromyko, Zaykov, Chebrikov, Demichev, Yakovlev, Dobrynin, Razumovskiy, Sokolov, Akhromeyev, Kulikov, Lushev, and Lizichev.

Additional scenes of the passing parades are then shown, after which the television links up with the Mir spacecraft. In Red Square, Cosmonauts Savinykh and Solovev, seen with an unidentified announcer, exchange greetings with orbiting cosmonauts Romanenko and Laveykin, who give greetings to the viewers. Syrian cosmonauts are also briefly shown in the square. The space hookup ends as Solovev says Mir is leaving the radio visibility zone.

Interviews follow with workers and foreign guests from Angola and Nicaragua, after which more scenes are shown of the passing parade of workers' groups.

The video then shows a closeup of Gorbachev waving.

Next, there is a hookup with Prague and New York, as Gus Hall is interviewed. This is followed by another shot of Gorbachev waving. Another American is then interviewed, as are French guests. More shots of the parade follow. Next, Komsomol congress delegates are interviewed.

There are then hookups with Kabul, where a similar parade is being held, and with Madrid. The scene then shifts back to Red Square, as the parade continues. A British trade union figure is then interviewed.

The parade ends with students of the Physical Culture Institute giving a gymnastic and dance display. The live coverage of the May Day celebrations then concluded at 0810 GMT.

No military hardware was seen in the parade.

Solovyev Greets Marchers

LD011100 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 1 May 87

[Excerpts] Hundreds of thousands of Leningraders came today to the historic Palace Square. [passage omitted on May Day festivities]

From the rostrum, the marchers were greeted by Comrade Solovyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Leningrade Obkom, and other leaders of party and local soviet organizations. [passage omitted on festivities across the country]

Shalayev Addresses Trade Unions

LD011152 Moscow TASS in English 1120 GMT 1 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 1 TASS -- The USSR All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions held a reception today for foreign trade union delegations that had arrived in Moscow to attend celebrations on the occasion of the day of international solidarity of working people. It was attended by representatives of trade unions from some 120 countries of all the continents, of the World Foundation of Trade Unions, of other international trade union organizations, by advanced workers of industry and agriculture, prominent scientific and cultural personalities.

Stepan Shalayev, president of the Central Council of Trade Unions, addressed the reception greeting the guests. A reply speech was made by Alain Stern, secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

The reception was held in an atmophere of cordiality and internationalist friendship.

IZVESTIYA on 'Businesslike' Approach

PM011111 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 May 87 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Loyalty to the Working Class' Traditions"]

[Text] It was 69 years ago that Red Square first received the working people's May Day columns. The day before a decree had stated: "The holiday of the International, the joining of the working people of the whole world, the May Day holiday, is a bright, fine, revolutionary holiday of the spirit...".

These words are in particular harmony with Soviet people's thoughts and feelings today, when a nationwide struggle is under way for revolutionary transformations in Soviet society and the state, when the destiny of restructuring, to which the party has called us by promoting the course of the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development, is being decided at factories and plants, in design bureaus, on kolkhozes and sovkhozes, in scientific laboratories and student lecture halls.

That is why the thrust of the present May Day is concern for workers' daily routine. That is why the labor holiday is characterized not by ostentatious reports but by a businesslike approach to the set tasks.

The 27th CPSU Congress has set the country complex and wide-scale tasks. The acceleration strategy elaborated by the party has pointed the only correct way of resolving them -- the intensification of the national economy, the comprehensive solution of social problems, a considerable increase in labor productivity, and the wide enlistment of the masses to the management of enterprises, kolkhozes, and organizations.

Today we must take a most attentive look at what has already been done, assess blunders in a sober and principle manner, and remove the obstacles standing in the way of restructuring. This explains the special mood characteristic and May Day 1987 the year of the Soviet state's 70th anniversary.

The past 2 years have been marked by a series of measures undertaken by the party and government with a view toward further improving the economic mechanism and the system of management of the economy and a draft law has been elaborated on the state enterprises (associations). Thousands of citizens have participated in discussing these measures. All this is aimed primarily at developing the system of social and above all economic relations, at improving the Soviet people's prosperity, at enhancing the role of the working class in the administration of the state, and its active participation in the restructuring process.

Time has proven that it is with an awareness of their duty and responsibility that Soviet people have joined in work to implement the party's decisions. It is not only a case of the country seeking substantial advances on the economic front. The main thing is increased social and public activeness and the fact that the human factor is making itself felt increasingly vigorously and resolutely.

The expansion and intensification of socialist democracy and the atmosphere of openness -- all this is meeting with a wide response among working people and support among the workers. In these May days the leaders elected by the labor collectives are marching in the ranks of the May Day columns together with the workers, employees, kolkhoz members, and scientific intelligentsia.

They are the ones the working people have entrusted with the right to administer the affairs of enterprises and organizations. Recently the practice of self-administration has acquired new distinguishing features; the first results attest to the political maturity and principledness of the people.

This is also borne out by the reports from local areas concerning the nomination of candidates for the posts of deputies of local soviets of people's deputies. The businesslike discussion of the nominations and citizens' real participation in shaping the organs of the power of the people are a characteristic feature of the present election campaign, which is a number of regions of the country is proceeding under the new experimental system of multiseat okrugs. The raising of public consciousness and the growing activeness of workers, kolkhoz members, and the intelligentsia in resolving big and small problems attest to the interest of the country's citizens in qualitative transformations of our society.

It is essential that, without stopping halfway, we should give even greater scope to the masses' initiative and creation and use all the opportunities which socialist society possesses for these purposes. We must wage a resolute struggle against attempts to stifle openness and hide it, and consequently democracy itself, in the shadows. Bureaucracy will not voluntarily surrender its positions. Through mimicry it is attempting to adapt itself to restructuring. In fact, it is offering it resistance. That means that there is still a topical ring to the demand to remember, both on ordinary days and on holidays, that revolutionariness today means above all principledness, staunchness, innovatory thinking, and the ability to work at full tilt.

Returning again to 1918, let's recall one detail -- on the evening of 1 May Vladimir Ilich Lenin attended a concert at the first house of soviets. He attended it and listened to his favorite satirical couplets written by Beranger. Satire has always been an effective weapon of the revolution.

A small but characteristic detail -- satirical posters and improvised agitation propaganda shows ridiculing the opponents of renewal were one of the elements of the organizations of this year's holiday demonstrations. Returning to us the best traditions of the first Soviet May Days, the workers' satire has at the same time become a sign of our own revolutionary times.

These times are complex and perturbing for the planet which is defending its right to live in peace.

In the May Day demonstrations the Soviet people are stating their determination to continue to struggle for the cause of peace on the planet; for the peace initiatives put forward by the world's first worker and peasant state; For the aim of ensuring that the threat of war does not overcast the holiday of labor in the future. The holiday, on which as the 1918 decree we have already quoted said, may "the rifles be dead and dumb for a whole day in the orderly military columns!"

PRAVDA on 'Tribute', 'Pressure'

PM011447 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 May 87 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Spring Winds of Renewal"]

[Excerpts] May Day -- the day of world proletarian unity and great solidarity between working people in the fight against exploitation and oppression and for peace and social development -- enters our cities and villages to the sound of music and song. [paragraph continues]

The May Day parades of progressive forces are not simply a tribute to tradition. They are also a powerful means of putting pressure on reactionaries and giving even greatear scope to the anti-imperialist movement. [passage omitted]

The labor successes achieved by many collectives prior to May Day confirm that the rhythm of the restructuring process and the acceleration of our development are producing tangible results. Labor productivity growth rates have risen and positive changes are making themselves felt in the work of entire sectors. More homes, kindergartens, and hospitals were built last year than ever. No less important is the fact that obsolete stereotypes and the braking mechanism are being overcome and people are learning to think and act in a new manner. But we do not flatter ourselves with what we have achieved. We realize that only the first steps have been taken and the bulk of the work still lies ahead. Our motto is: Action! Action for a better life, for the revolutionary renewal of society.

The vanguard role played by the Communist Party in society can be seen with particular clarity through the prism of May Day. The Communist Party is waging a persistent struggle to resolve the new tasks and readily and skillfully renewing its work forms and methods. The CPSU strives to ensure that strict observance of the Leninist norms of party life, leadership principles, and communist morality and intensification of internal party democracy penetrate the party at every level. The party orients itself toward the all-round development of our system's democracy -- an important guarantee that Soviet society will achieve a qualitatively new state. For us real democracy means the extensive and intensive development of self-management by the people and the free interplay of talent and intellect. Real democracy is incompatible with excessive administration and high-handed commands, petty regulations and restrictions, and bureaucratic lack of faith in people's intelligence and experience. It is an uncompromising enemy of irresponsibility and total license. The party consistently upholds the principle that no organization, no working person must be above control or above criticism.

The atmosphere of revolutionary renewal in every area of our lives, in which the May Day celebrations are today being held, shows that the popular masses and the working class have become committedly involved in the restructuring work. Young people, before whom broad prospects of economic and scientific and technical progress, social creativity, and spiritual development have opened up, are becoming increasingly actively involved in the restructuring process. Young men and women are ready to increase the wealth of their native country and preserve its beauty, human values, and the traditions of our culture and ideology. The revolutionary transformations in society show that all the generations of Soviet people are united by their common fundamental interests and by their desire to ensure their country's prosperity.

There are celebrations today in our large cities and small villages, in the mountainous villages of Central Asia and the sun-baked villages of the Caucasus -- in every corner of our multinational motherland. Russians and Kazakhs, Lithuanians and Yakuts, Georgians and Chuvashes -- representatives of every nation and nationality in the USSR -- walk shoulder to shoulder in the ranks of the demonstrators. We are proud of the successes achieved by the CPSU's nationalities policy, which has put an end to national oppression and to any infringement of people's rights on grounds of nationality and which guarantees economic and spiritual progress for all nations and nationalities. We are loyal to the Bolshevik tradition of waging a principled struggle against any manifestations of national narrow-mindedness and arrogance, nationalism, chauvinism, and local favoritism.

Spring may have been late in coming but it is making itself felt with increasing confidence. [paragraph continues]

May blossoms in our beautiful world.... At this time of nature's awakening, you have a particularly strong sense of its fragility and dependence on man as well as its beauty. But even the human race itself is faced with the problem of survival. While offering and supporting slogans of peace and security for all, the May Day demonstrations demand that our planet be freed of the threat of nuclear war. Our party and state are steadily trying to ensure that all nuclear armor [dospekhi] is left behind at the threshold of the third millennium and that weapons are prevented from entering space and are reduced and ultimately eliminated on earth. These efforts will prove more effective, as matters proceed in our own country. Soviet people regard it as their responsible international duty to strengthen their country's economic and defense might. Our comrades-in-arms in the struggle for peace are socialist countries, the workers and communist movement, the peoples of liberated states, and mass democratic movements.

May Day celebrations are being held across the vast expanses of the Soviet Union. Fresh spring winds of renewal are blowing through the country.

CPSU DECISION ON LABOR, PUBLIC DISCIPLINE

LD031702 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1241 GMT 3 May 87

[Text] Moscow, 3 May (TASS) -- The CPSU Central Committee has examined the question of the movement for a collective guarantee of labor and public discipline. The committee's decision noted that in various branches of the country's national economy this movement is becoming increasingly widespread. In industry and construction about 15 percent of the teams, amounting to 8 million individuals, take part in the movement. The movement was born out of the creativity of the working people.

The CPSU Central Committee's decision attaches great significance to the fact that the movement for a collective guarantee of discipline is gaining ever more active support from working people and the movement itself serves as concrete experience of production self-government, of a strengthening of collectivist relations and of the moral education of the individual, and of public control over the measure of labor and consumption. Measures of a collective nature have an effective influence on violators of labor and public discipline.

The CPSU Central Committee recommended that the necessary organizational and political-educational work be conducted to develpp the movement, by making use of the example of front-ranking collectives and the experience accumulated by them and by not permitting bureaucratic administration or violation of the voluntary principle in the process. It is recommended that this work be carried out in close collaboration with measures to introduce full financial autonomy, self-financing, and team (collective) forms of organization and payment of labor; with measures to develop democratism in management; and with measures to attain high final results in production and economic activity.

UKRAINIAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE HOLDS PLENUM 25 APR

AU040809 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 20 Apr 87 p 1

["Information Announcement on a Plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] A plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee was held 25 April.

The item on the plenum agenda concerned the work performed by the Ukrainian Ministries of Construction and of Installation and Special Construction to restructure management and the economic mechanism in conformity with the 27th CPSU Congress decisions, and to organize the implementation of the construction program in 1987. Reports were delivered by V.P. Salo, Ukrainian minister of construction, and V.Z. Borisovskiy, Ukrainian minister of installation and special construction.

The participants in the discussion were Comrades B.V. Kachura, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee secretary; A.P. Nochevkin, Odessa Obkom first secretary; V.G. Kucherenko, Donetsk Obkom second secretary; A.I. Marchenko, assembly team leader at the Kharkov housing construction combine No 1 under the "Khrakovzhilstroy" combines; P.Ye. Yesipenko, Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman; A.N. Girenko, Kherson Obkom first secretary; V.A. Zgurskiy, Kiev Gorispolkom chairman; A.A. Mironenko, Dnepropetrovsk Obkom secretary; A.K. Minchenko, first deputy chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee for Material and Technical Supply; A.K. Podolskiy, "Chernovtsypromstroy" trust manager; A.M. Roschupkin, Crimean Oblispolkom chairman; and V.P. Matviyenko, manager of the Ukrainian republic-level office of the USSR Construction Bank.

The plenum was addressed by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary.

The plenum adopted a decision on the item discussed. The decision is published in the press.

The plenum examined organizational questions.

In connection with the election of V.A. Ivashko, Urainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo candidate member, ad Dnepropetrovsk Obkom first secretary, he was relieved of the duties of Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee secretary.

Yu.N. Yelchenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member hitherto Kiev Gorkom first secretary, was elected Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee secretary.

V.A. Sidorov, sector chief in the Construction Department of the CPSU Central Committee, participated in the plenum proceedings.

Discussions, Speeches Noted

LD252343 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] The work of construction ministries in the Ukraine was discussed at a Ukraine Communist Party Central Committee plenum that took place in Kiev today. The speeches noted that in keeping with the directives of the 27th CPSU Congress, the restructuring of management and economic methods is being implemented in the industry. But as yet it is not being implemented vigorously or purposefully enough, and has not gone deep. They have not managed to overcome the lagging behind at facilities for the machine building sectors, ferrous metallurgy, and the production of mineral fertilizers. The practice of dissipating resources around many construction sites has not become obsolete.

The achievements of scientific and technical progress and advanced experience are being slowly introduced. Participants at the plenum expressed confidence that communists and all workers of the republic's construction industry will put their efforts into successfully fulfilling this year's plan and the 5-year plan as a whole.

Comrade Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukraine Communist Party Central Committee, spoke at the plenum.

LENINGRAD PAPER CITES OBKOM PLENUM PROCEEDINGS

PM151511 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 29 Mar 87 p 1

[LENTASS report: "Following the Course of Acceleration and Restructuring. Leningrad CPSU Obkom Plenum"]

[Text] The Leningrad party organization's tasks to fulfill the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum were discussed at a Leningrad CPSU Obkom Plenum held yesterday in the Smolnyy.

The report was delivered by Yu.F. Solovyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad party obkom.

The following took part in the debate: V.S. Rantsev, team leader in the Glavzapstroy's [Main Administration for Construction in Western Regions] "Kirovstroy" Trust No 47; A.S. Nemtin, party committee secretary in the "Izhorskiy Zavod" Association; A.N. Gerasimov, first secretary of Leningard CPSU Gorkom; B.V. Gidaspov, general director of the "Gosudarstvennyy Institut Prikladnoy Khimii" Science and Production Association; O.V. Chuksanov, first secretary of Kirovskiy CPSU Raykom; V.Ya. Khodyrev, chairman of the Lengingrad Gorispolkom; V.V. Kuzmin, leader of a team of drivers in Truck Convey No 1, 101; A.A. Stepanchuk, first secretary of Vsevolozhsk CPSU Gorkom; S.P. Chernov, general director of the "Kirovskiy Zavod" Production Association; G.I. Pankov, editor of the "Elektrosila" Production Association; L.V. Vasilyeva, textile carrier at the "Pervomayskaya Zarya" Production Association; Academician I.A. Glebov, chairman of the USSR Academy of Science Leningrad Scientific Center Presidium and director of the All-Union Electrical Machine Building Research Institute; V.A. Yefimov, first secretary of Leninskiy CPSU Raykom; M.M. Miroshnikov, director of the S.I. Vavilov State Optical Institute; N.I. Popov, chairman of Leningrad Oblispolkom; A.S. Klyuchnikov, party committee secretary at the S. Ordzhonikidze Baltic Plant; V.I. Korzhov, chairman of the Lengingrad Oblast Trade Union Council; N.F. Vorobyeva, operator at the "Pashskiy" Industrial Complex; and G.M. Fadeyev, chief of the Oktyabrskaya Railroad.

Yu.F. Solovyev delivered the concluding speech.

A detailed resolution was adopted on the question under discussion.

Organizational questions were examined at the plenum. In view of the transfer of G.P. Voshchinin to work in USSR MVD organs, he was relieved of the post of chief of the Leningrad CPSU Obkom Administrative Organs department.

V.N. Teglev, who formerly worked as first secretary of Dzerzhinskiy CPSU Raykom, was approved as chief of the CPSU Obkom Administrative Organs Department.

In view of the transfer of A.I. Smirnov to work in the CPSU Central Committee apparatus, he was relieved of his post as chief of the Leningrad CPSU Obkom Foreign Relations Department.

V.F. Bystrov, who formerly worked as deputy chief of the department was approved as chief of the party obkom Foreign Relations Department.

V.I. Konstantinov, instructor of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Department took part in the plenum.

PRAVDA NOTES AZERBAIJAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM

PM281045 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Apr 87 Second Edition p 3

[Report by special correspondents Z. Kadymbekov and A. Shinkin: "Being Personally Responsible; Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum on the Agenda"]

[Text] Baku -- Everything is understood through comparison. Comparison helps a better understanding of the phenomena and processes taking place. The participants in the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Plenum, having renounced the victorious reports once so customary, focused their attention on the main issue: how far the style of work of the republic's Central Committee and other party committees and party organizations accords with the demands of restructuring and the spirit of the time. From this exacting analysis they drew lessons and outlined the paths of future work.

Yes, the restructuring process has begun. But, in soberly assessing what has been done, the keynote speaker -- K. Bagirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee -- and the speakers in the debates -- F. Musayev, first secretary of the Baku Gorkom, N. Mustafayev, first secretary of the Nakhichevan Party Obkom, A. Amanov, drilling foreman at the "Azneft" association, Z. Gashimova, chairman of the "Sovetskaya Ukraina" Kolkhoz, Shemakhinskiy Rayon, and others -- noted that these are all only the first steps on the path of renewal and the acceleration of socioeconomic development. The new is not carving a way for itself everywhere. Many people are still replacing specific, lively work with paper shuffling and fussing with the holding of sessions.

This is affecting the state of affairs in the economy. Despite the growth of social production and the national income, there are a number of acute problems. One problem is the decline in the return on investment. Every year approximately R320 million are lost in this area. Of 226 new enterprises only 73 have reached their planned capacity. To resolve the problem we must rid ourselves of old equipment and more rapidly transfer to the two-shift and three-shift system.

Little attention is paid to the rational use of material resources, the speakers noted. The precise organization of production and labor discipline are not ensured everywhere. As a result the plan for the first quarter for the sale of output with a consideration for contract commitments was fulfilled only 97.1 percent. Over 100 enterprises in the republic have let down their subcontractors. The technical standard and quality of output are being improved only slowly.

Many shortcomings and omissions have also accumulated recently in the countryside. Every fourth farm runs at a loss or shows little profit. The financial aid rendered to them is often not spent on developing production or consolidating the sociocultural sphere. For instance, at the imeni Zhdanova Sovkhoz, Lachinskiy Rayon, of the R70,000 earmarked for the farm last year R60,000 were spent on increasing wages, although they did not start to obtain more putput here.

Economic acountability and the collective contract are only slowly being introduced on farms. The general opinion is that formalism and the oversimplified approach of many leaders of these important questions are an obstacle. Often, the plenum noted, waste is generated by the rayon agro-industrial association specialists by their thoughtless and economically unsubstantiated actions.

The speakers sharply criticized the republic's science workers. The return on research is low. Many research studies do not accord with modern requirements. Only an insignificant proportion are realized at invention level. Nearly a year ago five republican intersectorial scientific and technical complexes were created in the republic. But the organizational period has obviously dragged on.

The plenum participats viewed the ability to resolve social questions as one of the main criteria of cadres' maturity. Unfortunately, many leaders are not standing up to this test. A lag behind the all-union level has been allowed in the republic in providing hospitals and preschool institutions and consumer services and municipal establishments.

The plenum participants explained the reasons for these and other blunders by the defects inthe work of leading cadres. Far from all of them have learned to work under the conditions of developing democracy and the assertion of new principles of economic management. The keynote speaker blamed himself first of all.

"We must begin restructuring with ourselves," K. Bagirov said. "The Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and secretariat and entire apparatus must work more vigorously and purposefully and above all, I, as first secretary of the Central Committee, must expand my work and display more exactingness and principledness in resolving questions of the republic's political, economic, and social life.

The plenum criticized many Central Committee secretaries and other leaders of the republic. Personal responsibility for serious disproportions in the agro-industrial complex and the development and placement of production forces and for the lag in the social sphere also rests with G. Seidov, chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers. Central Committee Secretary V. Konovalov, A. Rasi-Zade, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and A. Mutalibov, chairman of the Gosplan, were reprimanded for their slack control over the fulfillment of decisions.

Central Committee Secretary R. Mekhtiyev, the plenum said, must make a deeper study of all aspects of the work of scientific institutions, improve the standard of party leadership, and resolutely overcome stagnation phenomena in the scientific sphere. Central committee Secretary T. Orudzhev and M. Mamedov, chairman of the State Agro-Industrial Committee, were required to rapidly investigate the reasons for the poor return on the funds invested in agriculture and to outline a specific program of actions to improve the work of the agrarian sector. The time has come, the speakers said, for the State Agro-Industrial Committee to make itself heard not through an outward show but through specific deeds.

Many reprimands were levelled against the construction workers. The work of Central Committee Secretary G. Gasnov, who is responsible for this sector, and of construction complex leaders D. Asanov. A. Aliyev, T. Kyazimov, R. Sadykov, Sh. Gasanov, and others is in need of fundamental restructuring.

The speakers recommended that Central Committee Secretary S. Kasumova engage persistently, purposefully, and in a more specific manner in questions of trade and the consumer services sphere. There have been many changes here. Yet the shortcomings in trade and the consumer services sphere affect the interests of every inhabitant.

Large-scale embezzlements have been uncovered recently in cotton growing, viticulture, local industry, trade, and several other sectors of the national economy. A number of leading workers have had criminal charges brought against them and have received party reprimands.

"As a Central Committee member," S. Musayev, team leader at the imeni Montina oil field machine building plant, said, "it is hard for me to 'explain' to workers the cases of violation of the norms of our morality by some leaders and Communists. They cause considerable harm to restructuring."

The Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee is embarking boldly on the renewal of leading cadres. In the period since the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum the leadership of 16 ministries and departments and 33 party raykoms and gorkoms and gorispolkoms and rayispolkoms has been replaced. But preparation for the plenum showed that the inertia of old habits in cadres policy is still strong: Trust is frequently replaced by mindless credulity, which is essentially lack of control and all-forgivingness. The promotion of cadres for reasons of personal loyalty or friendship or by virtue of coming from the same region or being related has not been successfully eliminated.

A kind of closed ruling elite has formed in Agdzhabedinskiy Rayon. As they replace each other the leaders there take turns holding a range of nomenklatura posts. Having worked a year or two or even just a few months, they are dismissed at their own request and soon reappear in another official post.

The influx of young people to leading work is proceeding only slowly in the republic. Here are the statistics: Only 16 party gorkom and raykom first secretaries and ispolkom chairmen are under 40.

To change this we must radically restructure work with the cadres reserve. Possessing a large number of specialists, the party committees, ministries, and departments frequently encounter grave difficulties in selecting leaders. Vacancies are not filled for a long time. Thus, for over a year the Tauzskiy, Masallinskiy, and Kubatlinskiy party raykoms were unable to select agricultural department leaders.

The plenum participants made special demands on leaders' moral and ethical qualities. What sometimes happens? A particular worker, having taken up a responsible post, begins to be concerned not so much for business as for how to derive creature comforts and material benefits from his post. A kind of displacement of the scale of values occurs.

A sense of modesty and self-criticism in assessing their work should never desert party and economic workers, the speakers said. [paragraph continues]

They must remember that only by relying on the masses and together with people is it possible to ensure the restructuring of all our life. Where collegiality has been lost, ostentation, keeping quiet about shortcomings, gross distortions in work with cadres, lack of principle, embezzlements, and exaggerated data invariably appear with time. Evidence of this is the work of the Yardymlinskiy Party Raykom, where bureau members tacitly followed the lead of the (now former) first secretary Mamedov. This style of work is absolutely intolerable.

The plenum participants discussed in detail the important question of the development of democratic principles in the elected organs' activity. It is no secret that the concerns of many Communists elected to a particular party committee are most often limited to taking part in sessions. A critical assessment of what has been achieved is not asserted everywhere. For instance at the plenums of the Stepanakert Gorkom and the Lachinskiy, Fizulinskiy, and other party raykoms, there is no criticism of secretaries and apparatus workers.

The Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and secretariat, the plenum participants concluded, must toughen their control and verification of the execution of the decisions which have been taken, direct departments and all apparatus workers promptly to the elimination of shortcomings, make a deeper analysis of cadres' professional and political qualities, and increase their responsibility for restructuring.

V.A. Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, addressed the plenum.

YAKOVLEV REPORTS TO ACADEMY OF SCIENCES CONFERENCE

PM301019 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 87 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "To Know the Dialectics of Restructuring"]

[Text] To get to know in greater depth the real dialectics of the socialist society's development in the process of restructuring and to elaborate clear-cut criteria for progress, by surmounting stagnation and dogmatism and reviving the Leninist spirit of creative questing for the truth -- these are the tasks toward which the efforts of historians, economists, pedagogues, jurists, philosophers, sociologists, and representatives of other sectors of social science are now directed. A broad exchange of opinions on this topic took place 17 April in Moscow at a conference of social scientists organized by the USSR Academy of Sciences. Leaders of the USSR Academy of Sciences, institute directors, members of the academy for the humanities, and editors of leading social science journals participated in the conference.

A.N. Yakovlev, candidate member of the Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and corresponding member of the Economics Department of the USSR Academy of Sciences, delivered a report entitled "The Attainment of Soviet Society's Qualitatively New State and the Social Sciences".

The October Revolution and the present restructuring, which are separated by 7 decades, he said, are continuously and inseparably linked and are united in their chief aspect. To use Lenin's words, both the revolution and the restructuring are "a time of action, action both from above and from below." Restructuring is a time of self-purification and fundamental change, the continuation of the Great October cause under new historical conditions. Restructuring is also a process of objective analysis of the state of affairs in our society, in world development, and in everything comprising mankind's existence.

Restructuring is an act of creative and purposeful construction. It must be such not only in the spheres of the economy, politics, and social life but also everywhere that the condition, trends, and prospects of spiritual development are affected: in culture, education, and social sciences.

The past 2 years have been marked by energetic theoretical questing. The CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum, the 27th congress, and the Central Committee January (1987) Plenum gave us a new view of the socialist perspective and a general understanding of the aims and character of revolutionary changes and advanced a broad program, including social science research both with regard to the fundamental, major questions of our movement and in applied aspects. The ideological-theoretical platform of acceleration has, by and large, been created during this time.

The April plenum and the 27th CPSU Congress armed the party with scientifically verified knowledge of the fundamental features of the modern epoch and the contradictory but also interdependent and in many ways integral world and with understanding of the optimum ways, means, and methods of solving questions of vital importance for the destiny of civilization at a crucial juncture in world history. The concept and methodology of the new political thinking, based on an analysis of the dialectics of the class aspect and the general human aspect under contemporary conditions, were advanced. Large-scale questions of the complex dialectic interconnections of socialism's internal development and of world development as a whole were raised.

The party's collective creative thinking formulated the concept of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and, on that basis, achieving a qualitatively new state of society -- a concept revolutionary in terms of innovativeness. The grain of revolutionary restructuring dropped into the people's soil in April 1985 has put forth strong shoots of mass struggle to implement the program of socialism's renewal.

The new approach to social policy concretizes the humanist tradition of Marxist-Leninist thought and in many ways determines the novelty of the modern system of socioeconomic, spiritual, and moral priorities of party policy. This updated system of values really places the person at the center as the very object of progress and socialism, and the human factor as its decisive force.

Our concepts of the natural laws of the development of the economy of socialism and of the dialectics of productive forces and production relations have been significantly enriched. Questions of improving the realization of socialist ownership by the whole people, particularly developing its cooperative forms, setting commodity-money relations to work, and accelerating scientific and technical progress, have been raised in a new manner.

A key feature of the restructuring is also the activation of the entire system of political and public institutions, the deepening of socialist democracy, and the idea of the people's self-management. The policy of all-around democratization received principled development at the 27th congress and the Central Committee January Plenum and is consistently confirmed and enriched by the practice of political and spiritual life.

The chief task today is to concentrate the considerable intellectual potential of Soviet social science on resolving the key tasks of socialism as it develops. Profound restructuring must also affect the social sciences.

A certain "schizophrenia" seems to exist among social scientists. On the one hand, there is understanding of the complex and crucial nature of the historical moment. Scientists see and soberly evaluate the situation in the economy and in the social, spiritual, and moral sphere. On the other hand, there is still strong inertia and the comforting illusion that the present state of the social sciences correctly reflects, in principle, the present stage in the development of socialism. It is an illusion which hampers recognition of the fact that negative phenomena and stagnation are also a consequence of dogmatism, of concepts divorced from life, of dead schemes. It is important to overcome alienation from the difficulties now being experienced, not to yield to the temptation to be self-indulgent, and to understand how essential it is to return to social science the Leninist spirit of fearless seeking after the truth.

We have to attain a new level in the sober evaluation of experience -- both blunders and achievements. To treat everything without bias, be self-critical, be honestly and frankly aware of the consequences resulting from a timeserving interpretation of certain theses of Leninism which contradicts its essence, mobilize ourselves and scientific collectives for a revolutionary search for answers to the questions of life -- this is what is required of social science today. This is a difficult and painful process, but it is inevitable.

Creative Marxism-Leninism is always an uncovering, not a cover-up. "...We constantly turn to Vladimir Ilich Lenin, his thoughts and ideas," M.S. Gorbachev said at the Central Committee January plenum. "This is not just a tribute of tremendous respect, not only recognition of Lenin's authority. It is a pressing desire to revive the spirit of Leninism under modern conditions, to revive it as fully as possible...".

Dogmatic interpretation of economic laws and categories and of certain theses on socialism, socialist democracy, social justice, and the development rates and prospects of communist civilization formed stagnant zones in the science of society. The practically dogmatic absolutization of state ownership in fact resulted in the primacy of bureaucratic administration and in greater scope for the omnipotence of red tape. Red tape needs dogmatism, and vice versa. Both bureaucrats and dogmatists can exist only by infringing the interests of society, using their membership of the state apparatus to that end.

The chief demand on social science --the social imperative, if you like -- is to revive the creative, dialectic, and realistic Leninist approach to understanding the aims and means of socialist transformations and to painstakingly and thoughtfully study the real contradictions.

The social sciences today are simply obliged to give meaning to the novelty and the special features of restructuring and the conditions under which it is being carried out. Any primitivism here is just another form of dogmatism. You must do your work yourself, not shifting it onto the classics. You should direct accumulated potential and dialectical thinking itself toward advancing and encouraging new theses and approaches.

The basic theoretical task may be formulated briefly thus: Modern socialism must get to know itself first of all. This will not happen if social science continues to be dominated by fear of touching on problems which are not yet a constituent part of political decisions and if we remain at the level of commentating on the latter.

Lenin's demand for an integral, comprehensive approach to analyzing the interaction among various aspects of social life is invariably topical, and particularly so in the present stuation. It is a question of an approach which takes account of the complex interconnection between productive forces and production relations, between the base and the superstructure, politics and economics, centralism and democracy, private and public interests, ideology and material living conditions, psychological and moral elements, and so forth. Only the complete and organic unity of the economic, the social, and the spiritual gives the effect of the new system's qualitative integrity.

It is necessary to approach the systematic, general philosophical interpretation of reality fully armed with modern knowledge. Breakthroughs in fundamental generalizations and the development of an integral view of the world in the fullness of its real contradictions and determining trends are particularly necessary now.

Such an approach does not contradict the pressing need for social research -- sociological, social-psychological, humanitarian -- to attract very great attention. Socialism means, above all, the person in his real ties with society, with other people, with the material and spiritual spheres. Movement toward communism means primarily the improvement of social relations, of course, on the appropriate material and spiritual base. Theoretical consciousness must see and reflect not only the depth of these processes but also the very complex dialectics of the interconnections between consciousness and practice and the natural laws of the development of consciousness itself.

The consistent application of the principle of historicism in social science is extremely necessary. Many complexities could have been avoided if the structures of our society had been regarded not just in words but also in practice as dynamic and developing and not as frozen. It is a question not of rewriting history for the sake of expediency but of the need to objectively and scientifically see what has been done an to interpret and analyze it in its entirety, in its integrity, and in its dialectical contadictoriness. To see the entire complex of links between cause and effect -- whether within or among the economic, social, political, or other spheres. Historicism of scientific, dialectical thought is also the most effective guarantee against artificial shop barriers in social science.

Restructuring poses on not only the practical but also the theoretical plane the task of renewing socialism as a whole, qualitatively, and not just improving individual aspects, spheres, or facets of it. Of course, the first does not rule out but presupposes the second.

The tasks set by the 27th congress lend significantly greater topicality to questions of developing social consciousness -- an inexhaustible source of social energy. The social sciences have a special place and role in solving these questions. The strengthening of the public sector and the social infrastructure, the development of socialist democracy, and the educational sphere constitute a single knot of problems requiring breadth in their theoretical formulation and purposefulness and competence in practical deeds.

In making urgent changes in society the party proceeds from the pressing and urgent need to democratize all social life and to assert a democratic understanding and feeling of the world in every citizen's way of thinking and acting.

Democracy is the most important -- or, rather, even the only possible -- mode of existence for socialism as a social system and a social organism. [paragraph continues]

Only through democracy and its deepening and development is it possible to activate everything that serves socialism and to enable the potential contained within it to reveal itself fully. Triumphant socialism is impossible if it has not implemented full democracy -- this is the mandate of the revolution, the words of V.I. Lenin.

The tasks of social science are to propose dialectically developed organizational, legal, and political methods of achieving increasingly full democracy -- methods corresponding to the modern stage. To reveal as accurately as possible the operating mechanism of democracy as a means of realizing and resolving the contradictions of all kinds that arise at all levels.

The problem of achieving a new qualitative state of society raises to a different level the question of society's social efficiency and of its essence and criteria. The interpenetration of the economy, science, material well-being, people's consciousness, and the culture of the masses is now so profound that any lag in any of these spheres at once affects others and upsets the rhythm of overall movement. The accelerated, considered resolution of social questions is a catalyst of economic development.

The speaker dwelt in detail on the tasks of political economy, philosophy, scientific communism, law, and other social sciences in theoretically ensuring the restructuring processes and resolving problems of the modern socialist society. Attention was drawn to the need for a greater practical return on specific research into man and society and for sociology, social psychology, and the humanities to be an inalienable part of the scientific substantiation and forecast of the processes taking place in our society. The significance of research into the entire range of phenomena and processes of international relations and world development was emphasized.

In other words, it is a question today of enriching Marxist thought at a qualitatively new round of world development and continuously updating and improving our world outlook.

What a huge information field in space and time K. Marx, F. Engels, and V.I. Lenin worked upon, how hard and responsibly they studied to the end of their days, with what care they sought the precise expression of their thought! There was not a social phenomenon or a scientific discovery which they did not critically interpret and include in the system of revolutionary ideas. It is sufficient to recall the scientific feat of V.I. Lenin, who philosophically generalized the revolution in natural science at the beginning of the century. We too are obliged to collectively develop Marxist-Leninist teaching equally dynamically, taking into account the fact that the volume of information now doubles every 20 months, compared with every 50 years in the times of K. Marx!

The question of developing democracy in science and of scientific ethics is an acute one. Democracy in science is a curative form of the civilized and not the strong-arm resolution of contradictions. Openness is the instrument by which society controls the state of affairs in all spheres of life, including science. It is necessary to democratize the very forms of organizing science, to enhance the role of scientific councils and scientific conferences and discussions, to enliven scientific criticism, and to subordinate authority of office to authority of thought.

Science can develop only in the process of constructive discussions, in the clash of opinions. [paragraph continues]

Both the established forms and the procedures of scientific discussions seem to need critical interpretation. What is needed is discussions arising out of the competition of ideas and the desire to defend the truth and new knowledge, not discussions in which, on the contrary, the truth drowns and perishes. People must be aware that no one has a monopoly on the truth either in the formulation of new questions or in the replies.

The link between social science and life is becoming a very acute problem in its development. Now, to use V.I. Lenin's words, "precisely that historic moment has come when theory is put into practice, is enlivened by practice, is corrected by practice, and is verified by practice." The living matter and the real return are simultaneously both the result and the very important guarantee of democratism, openness, and a healthy atmosphere in science itself.

The intellectual potential of our social science is quite strong. It is capable of coping with the serious and profound tasks advanced by life, the country, and the party.

What, if not creative Marxism-Leninism, can and must ensure a breakthrough into the unknown, and who, if not social scientists, can and must give the answer to the very complex and crucial questions facing our country? There is no other way.

A.N. Yakovlev then answered questions.

The debate then began. Opening the discussion, Academician A.G. Aganbegyan emphasized that economic scientists probably owe the greatest debt to society. They have not yet created sound elaborations which could become the foundation of economic restructuring. There is no clear-cut scientific substantiation for solving many questions. In particular, it is necessary to elaborate a system of measures which will make it possible to eliminate shortages. The problem of work motivation needs investigating, and the scientific bases of a new regional policy have not been elaborated. Many economists tackle the economic mechanism but forget there is a broader concept, the social mechanism. How to bring it up to full revolutions and determine the factors which will make it possible to ensure powerful acceleration as a result of the working people's energy -- these tasks must be at the center of economic scientists' attention today.

The speaker emphasized that debates and creative discussions must play a great role in developing economic science. The journal VOPROSY EKONOMIKI and other publications still seldom make use of these effective forms. Nor do we have business clubs or economic planners' clubs which would promote the exchange of experience and the formulation and solution of urgent problems.

Academician V.N. Kudryavstev's speech was devoted to an analysis of ways to overcome the negative phenomena in the period of stagnation which hindered the process of the humanization of science and the improvement of practical jurisprudence. Among the impeding factors he named, in particular, the predominance of departmental interests over the law and shortcomings in the training of legal cadres. The increasing role of the law was one-sidedly understood as the need to to step up regimentation and increase the number of prohibitions.

Speaking about improving legal relations, the speaker expressed the opinion that they must have the nature of mutual rights and obligations on the basis of law. It is necessary to improve the mechanism of legal practice and enhance the role of court organs.

In the speaker's opinion, the question of legal reform in the country is an urgent one. Among the key questions of restructuring the social sciences the speaker singled out the problem of introducing social scientists' recommendations into practice.

Academician T.I. Oyzerman devoted his speech to methodological problems of social science. In our activity, he said, we philosophers were frequently fettered by dogma whose essence was that the truth was proposed as something already given, and the investigator's task boiled down simply to substantiating it. The aim of truly scientific investigation is to reveal an as yet unknown truth. However, a practice which was to a considerable degree flawed was frequently absolutized. A kind of theoretical cognitive foundation of the dogmatic understanding of practice has been accumulated. To overcome this situation is one of the most important tasks of philosophers. As an example of a dogmatic attitude toward reality the speaker cited the well known and still current assertion that the primacy of production of the means of production in relation to production of the means of consumption is the most important indicator of progress. In this scientist's opinion, it is inadmissible that such dogmas, which are one of the foundations of the practice of ignoring and underestimating the social sphere, should retain their force in our time, when the human factor is assuming decisive significance.

Questions of the development of party historical science were examined in the speech of G.L. Smirnov, corresponding member of the Philosophy Department of the USSR Academy of Sciences. In his opinion, it is necessary to take another very careful look at certain periods of party history, conduct their detailed documentary elaboration, and not unreservedly take on trust assessments which differ from the obvious facts. It is necessary to overcome the situation in which it was deemed necessary to write not the history of people but the history of ideas. It is impossible to imagine a history not populated by people, a history in which individuals act, who do not pursue definite goals and are not guided by definite motives. The speaker sees precisely the depersonalization of history as the reason why party historical literature is almost devoid of vivid books that enjoy wide popularity. Many investigations suffer from being built on secondary information. The absence of ramified concrete material cannot serve the creation of really valuable works.

A critical look at what has been done, considered realism in everything that has to be studied, maximum emancipation and link with the practice of restructuring -- these are the three positions on which social scientists must redeploy their ranks today, Academician Ye.M. Primakov said. I do not quite agree, he declared, with the interpretation of the "social imperative" concept made in this hall. Let us not hide the fact that we were for a long time in a position where our role frequently boiled down to periodic information and reports. For the social scientist today the social imperative must signify the maximum degree of the scientific outstripping of the practical course of restructuring.

The dogmatism which was manifested in assessments of various aspects of society's development in recent years was also expressed in the fact that certain avenues of research were closed to theoretical interpretation. These include the very important postulate that our age is the age of the transition from capitalism to socialism. We devoted adequate attention to proving the formula of socialism' advantages over capitalism, but the time of transition, its forms, and the dynamics of the transition -- these assessments have not yet been made, despite the fact that they are of not only theoretical but also tremendous practical significance.

A range of questions connected with the interaction of social and natural sciences and with the contribution of academy science to resolving the practical tasks of the 5-year plan was examined in the speech of Academician Ye.P. Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. [paragraph continues]

Speaking of the search for new forms of integrating science with production, he pointed out that this requires the participation of economic scientists. What is needed is scientific elaboration of the economic bases of the activities of temporary scientific and technical laboratories and intersectorial scientific and technical complexes. Not having scientific substantiation, the vice president emphasized, we natural scientists have been forced to work out ourselves by trial and error the optimum structure of intersectorial scientific and technical complex and the methods of their activity. Assistance from economists is needed here. Their participation is also required in improving the system of material incentives for scientists' work.

P.A. Nikolayev, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, spoke with emotion on the concerns of scientists of the literature and language department. Most recently, he said, our writers have been turning increasingly actively to experience of the scientific study of processes taking place in the world. Yet we clearly underestimate the role of artistic self-consciousness in the progress of society. Let us recall what our socialist culture began with at the juncture of two epochs. Investigating in "The Development of Capitalism in Russia" the paths which Russia would take, V.I. Lenin studied the country's entire economic and political experience. Yet here he advised. Read Uspenskiy and Mamim-Sibiryak. It is precisely this elevation of the role of artistic consciousness and this form of cognition of the world that we lack today. Today, the speaker declared, we could evaluate both the theoretical and the cognitive function of artistic culture if we turned more actively to the social side of artistic experience.

Academician Yu.V. Bromley spoke of the importance of the theoretical integration of social science disciplines. Do our weak points not lie in the lack of unity among them, particularly in the study of national features in the development of our society? For many years we were oriented toward a one-sided examination of these problems, which boiled down to a study of interrepublican ties. But the national problem embraces all spheres of the country's social life -- from demography to psychology.

Underestimation of a factor such as national psychology has been particularly pernicious for the development of a truly scientific theory of our multinational society's development. National self-consciousness is formed at an early age, but hardly anyone studies the problems of its formation.

Academician G.I. Marchuk, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, named sociological research among the directions requring priority attention. While not having an instrument to analyze trend in various aspects of our activity, at the same time not everyone shows an interest in making correct use of the results obtained by sociologists. There are instances where people in krays and oblasts do not want the objective disclosure of trends which we have to take into account to find the correct solutions. This hinders both science and society as a whole.

Speaking of the development of the social sciences, emphasized that there is an urgent need to more widely involve natural scientists in solving current questions.

Various aspects of the restructuring in the social sciences -- organizational, methodological, cadre -- were examined in Academician O.T. Bogomolov's speech. He pointed to the main shortcomings in the way of solving urgent problems -- sketchiness, dogmatism, stereotyped thinking.

It is the speaker's conviction that the braking mechanism which existed until recently in the development of the social sciences needs in-depth analysis so we can really facilitate the process of emancipating the thinking of social scientists. The speaker cited specific examples where authors of books which have already been published or which have not yet seen the light of day have become the bearers of insultingly offensive labels and victims of the braking mechanism. Deliberately selected quotations have frequently been used against them to substantiate a not quite progressive idea. Perhaps people who used such methods are sitting in the same hall as us. But I have not heard any self-criticism here from those who hindered the development of creative thought, the speaker said.

Academician B.N. Ponomarev called alienation from life and actual reality the chief shortcoming of the social sciences. This gap is particularly obvious in the sphere of ideology and education. Ideology-mindedness must extend to all spheres of life in society. The inadequate ideological tempering, low theoretical standard, and insufficient socialist awareness of those who worked in the economic sphere played a considerable role in retarding the pace of the scientific and technical revolution and producing poor-quality output.

The speaker pointed to the social sciences' increasing role in the ideological struggle. The dissemination of the truth about the Soviet Union is one of the most important directions here. Great October's 70th anniversary provides a good opportunity for this. Explaining our peace-loving Leninist policy to all the peoples is of exceptional significance now.

Closing the conference, Academician P.N. Fedoseyev, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, recognized the topical and timely nature of a critical look at the activities of Soviet social scientists. The detailed analysis made here, he said, obliges us to take a new approach to the current restructuring in the sphere of the social sciences, particularly in planning and work organization, and to ensure the active participation of scientists in revolutionary changes.

Participating in the conference were Yu.P. Voronov, V.A. Grigoryev, and Yu.A. Sklyarov, chiefs of CPSU Central Committee departments.

CULTURE MINISTER ZAKHAROV ON RESTRUCTURING

AU290715 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 25 Apr 87 p 3

[Interview with USSR Minister of Cultre Vasiliy Zakharov by NOVOSTI correspondent Sergey Meshcheryakov: "Soviet Culture and Restructuring;" date and place of interview not given]

[Excerpt] Soviet culture is today one of the important instruments for bringing about revolutionary changes in the Soviet Union; this is chiefly a result of its great and direct impact on man, said USSR Minister of Culture Vasiliy Zakharov in an interview with a NOVOSTI correspondent. We are convinced that without an advanced spiritual culture, man would find himself in the contemporary world "out of politics," to use V.I. Lenin's words, that is, out of restructuring, outside social struggle.

With the growing social role of culture, there have also occurred great changes in the arts themselves. This is testified to by the results of the recent congresses of the creative unions -- writers, dramatic artists, and film makers. [paragraph continues]

These were purgative congresses in the true meaning of the word. They clearly outlined the situation in the Soviet arts and discussed everything that had slowed down their development. Although in the heat of the polemics some artists tended to blame all evil on the bureaucratic approach of state authorities to the creative unions, there had actually been fairly many manifestations of bureaucracy and stagnation even among the artists themselves. The newly elected leaderships provide a guarantee that the instruments of renewal-will be put into effect.

The entire cultural life has been revitalized. Films and dramas have appeared on the screen and on the stage which raise the problems of social life with increasing openness. The works of authors are being published who undeservedly fell into oblivion although their works represent a remarkable contribution to Russian and Soviet culture.

Some amateur theater studios have won state support; in Moscow alone there are now eight such theaters. Within the framework of the democratization of theatrical life, there has also occurred a change in the approach to the formation of ensembles and to the appointment of chief directors. The new director of the Taganka Theater, Nikolay Gubenko, for example, was elected by the ensemble itself.

[Meshcheryakov] You have referred to individual phenomena. But is it possible today to describe the restructuring and democratization of culture as a deep process?

[Zakharov] Quite certainly. The role of the creative unions and their independence in dealing with artistic problems, for example, have greatly increased, something that is basically new. Moreover, three social cultural organizations have been set up -- the Soviet Cultural Fund, the All-Union Musical Society, and the Union of Theatrical Workers.

A broad-scale renewal is also the aim of the experiment begun in the theater. The core of this experiment is providing the collectives with greater rights, beginning with the choice of the repertory and ending with the formation of ensembles. Democratic principles have also been introduced into the activity of concert agencies. The rights of lower-level creative organizations with respect to the classification [tarifikacia] of artists have been expanded.

The principle of openness represents an essential constituent part of restructuring in general and of restructuring in the cultural field in particular. It is being applied not only in the activity of creative collectives, but also in many cultural matters that used to be dealt with "behind closed doors." For example, broad circles of society can now take part in bids for contracts and competitions. In this regard we can recall the nationwide discussion on the design of the victory memorial in Moscow. There will also be a public competition for the project of a memorial to the warriors of the revolution in Leningrad.

The development of democracy forces us to revise some conceptual questions concerning the development of culture. The main factors slowing down its continuous movement included the method of orders and prohibitions, which inflicted great damage on Soviet arts. The development of many forms in music and painting had been hampered for decades. There was a tendency to distinguish between "higher" than popular music. This, too, is one of the forms of the aforesaid method. Thus it happened that in those years many genuine works of art were denied the right to exist.

The Ministry of Culture has already taken steps to eliminate such practices. We start with the premise that there is no trend in the arts that is not entitled to exist. The only thing that we have always fought and will continue to fight is the propagation, including propagation in works of art, of brute force and immorality, national conflicts, and wars. We will not stop waging a struggle against things running counter to the basic principles of Soviet society. Let me recall that orders and prohibitions did not always help us effectively resist the infiltration of "mass" bourgeois culture. We failed to take into consideration the specific psychological features of a segment of the young generation, which is attracted by certain forms of Western culture and art according to the well-known precept that "what is forbidden is bound to be interesting." It is said that forbidden fruit is sweetest.... Naturally, proceeding from tasks with respect to the aesthetic education of the masses, we must not be indifferent to these matters. We will also continue to promote all forms of people's creativity and folklore to preserve the best for the future. We will naturally promote the classical heritage in its diverse forms and try to educate the people with its help.

[Meshcheryakov] What is your position on those works of the nation's cultural heritage that have for many years been in the museums' depositories and to which the public has had no access?

[Zakharov] You are probably referring to the Russian avant-garde painting of the twenties. In my opinion it really was a mistake not to devote the appropriate attention to it, as many of these works are part of our national culture and represent a certain stage of its development. I am thinking of the works of Larionov, Kandinskiy, Filonov, Malevich, Chagall, Goncharova, and others.... This period has been studied predominantly by Western art historians who pitted the avant-garde of the twenties against Soviet arts as a whole and turned it into a "political issue." It was being neglected in our country because this trend did not have an objectively defined place in the history of Soviet culture. Owing to our prohibitions on the one hand and the one-sided approach by Western art historians on the other, Soviet painting lovers know little about this artistic current and people in the West believe that the Soviet painting of this period is confined to this avant-garde. What about the other currents? When an exhibition of the works of Russian and Soviet artists from the 1900-1930 period was held in the United States, it was an outright revelation for many people. Those who saw this exibition were simply stunned by the multifaceted nature of this cultural heritage. The formerly "prohibited" current have now become a full-fledged integral part of Soviet fine arts.

I am convinced that the same sensitive approach must also be taken in contemporary Soviet art, with young painters, composers, writers, directors.... We need diversity of forms and artistic concepts in all spheres of culture.

[Meshcheryakov] As is known, the public abroad attentively follows the changes taking place in the Soviet Union. How is the restructuring in culture reflected in international soviet cultural contacts?

[Zakharov] First of all, under the new conditions the creative unions of the USSR participate more broadly and more independently in cultural contacts with their foreign partners. Restructuring itself objectively permits the expansion of these contacts because the artistic range we are able to offer abroad has become much more varied. We invite, on a broader scale, representatives of diverse directions of Western culture to our country.

Generally speaking, the humanization of international relations has become a characteristic feature of our time. [paragraph continues]

As is known, many masters of culture took an active part in the recent forum "For a Nuclear-Free World, for the Survival of Humanity," in Moscow. In his speech at the forum M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, voiced the important idea that a nation that knows and appreciates the culture of other nations cannot harbor negative feelings for them.

Soviet socialist culture, too, is living up to its important peace-making role.

On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution "Days of Soviet Culture" will be held in all socialist countries, but also in many capitalist and developing countries. There will be a wealth of exhibition activities. A large exhibition is underway in Argentine and talks are being held in the United States and Canada. Soviet-Indian festivals that are unique in their scope and significance will be opened this year. They will last about a year and more than 3,500 people from each side will take part in them. [passage omitted on international exhibitions held in Moscow this year, guest performances by Soviet artists abroad, Soviet participation in the cultural forum in Budapest, and the determination of the Soviet cultural front to become actively involved in the "World Decade of Cultural Development" proclaimed by the United Nations for 1987-97]

KAMSHALOV, KLIMOV HEAD MOVIE INDUSTRY COUNCIL

PM151353 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 2 Apr 87 p 2

[V. Ivanova report: "Coordinating Council"]

[Text] The incipient transformation of moviemaking in our country demands daily painstaking work and monitoring.

A coordinating council and expert working groups for the further elaboration of basic guidelines for the restructuring of Soviet cinematography have been set up on the initiative of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography and the USSR Cinematography Workers Union. The council is headed by A. Kamshalov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography Workers Union Board. The experts groups, which include Union Board secretaries and senior officials from the State Committee for Cinematography apparatus, will deal with the elaboration of the planning and financial machinery, the organizational structure of cinematography, questions concerning the subject planning, acceptance, and evaluation of movies, the material remuneration system, and technical supplies for the movie industry.

ECONOMIST URGES ABOLITION OF WAGE CEILINGS

PM011037 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Apr 87 First Edition p 3

[Doctor of Economic Sciences Prof R. Khasbulatov article under the "Problems and Opinions" rubric: "What Should Pay Be For?"]

[Text] Moscow -- In our country, as is well known, the principle "from each according to his ability, to each according to his labor" operates. Everyone knows that. However, the interpretation of this principle often "stops short" of the content of the second part. And this costs society dearly because it does not provide an incentive to labor. Although much has been done recently to objectively assess the role of the human factor and its key element -- personal interest -- adequate practical measures have still not been taken. The transfer of the economy from administrative to economic methods of regulation is still not being conducted vigorously everywhere.

No to Wage-leveling [subhead]

In the past 15 years, wages in our country have risen quite rapidly and at the beginning of 1987 averaged around R200 a month. This, of course, has helped to raise people's level of material and cultural well-being. A further increase in wages is envisaged before the end of the 12th 5-Year Plan.

But there is a particular feature here. When wages rise faster than the growth in labor productivity, this creates a disproportion in the national economy. Earnings undergo a certain devaluation, the scarcity of consumer goods intensifies, and prices rise. These negative phenomena were observed in our economy until very recently. The dividing line between so-called highly-paid and low-paid workers began to disappear rapidly.

It is appropriate here to recall that one of the crucial features of the switch from the policy of war communism to the NEP [New Economic Policy] was precisely the removal of the restrictions on the growth of wages for workers in the production sectors. On 7 April 1921 V.I. Lenin signed a Council of People's Commissars decree on the regulation of workers' labor remuneration providing for the unrestricted growth of workers' wages commensurate with the results of their labor input and the growth of labor productivity. The fact that the basic principle of this decree was subsequently distorted, in particular by the 1931 wage scale, undoubtedly affected the development of a whole range of negative trends in our economy. Consequently the differentiation in wages between various categories of workers gradually began to disappear, which also represents an abandonment of the principle "from each according to his abilities, to each according to his labor."

During the implementation of the radical reform of the management of the economy much is being done to intensify the incentive role of wages. Nevertheless, it must be openly acknowledged that the wage-leveling approach has not been abandoned. That is one of the main obstacles to increasing labor productivity. Another consequence of low wage rates and wage-leveling is negligence.

Each person is a world unto himself. People have different characters and different levels of willpower and moral training. Some people quietly and carefully plan a family budget based on R200-300 a month for 3-4 people, for example. It is a bit tough, but you can live on that amount.

Other people -- fewer, it is true -- are dissatisfied at not being able to earn enough for a car or a cooperative apartment by means of their own labor. Notice -- by their own labor. They are the ones who most often use other opportunities to become rich illicitly: They take the path of speculation or theft. This, incidentally, is one reason for the appearance of elements of social corrosion which have penetrated our life, as the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum noted.

Thus, given the level of development of production forces that we have achieved, people should be able to acquire cars and other good-quality consumer durables from their earned income. [Article as published in PRAVDA 28 April Second Edition omits preceding sentence]

We cannot be satisfied with the existing situation in the area of distribution relations. Violations of socialism's most important principle -- distribution according to labor -- have occurred. The struggle against unearned incomes has lacked determination... A "wage-leveling" mentality and parasitical attitudes have begun to take root in many people's consciousness.

For example, the following arguments designed to show how we are living well are still widespread. The level of pay exceeds the amount necessary for day-to-day food and consumption; the state is continuing to increase spending on housing construction, leisure, health, and so on. As a result the elaborate conclusion is drawn that in general wages are quite high and on the whole everything is fine in this area. Of course, wages will continue to grow in accordance with current social policy. Yet it is no secret that many families have difficulty "making do" on their wages. Nevertheless, it is clear that consumer goods production plans must be balanced against the population's money incomes.

Idea [subhead]

I believe that first of all wage ceilings should be abolished. The ultimate basis and the main element of the campaign for real acceleration is the creation of conditions which would release people's energy. How is this to be done? By making full payment, with unlimited growth, for work well done, especially for work above the norm, and by accurately correlating earnings with each person's real labor input.

But there is another aspect to this question -- namely, the accuracy of economic information and the reliability of the recording of the worker's actual labor input. In this connection the following new "phenomenon" is interesting. There is much criticism going on at present. Regardless of who or what body is involved. Correct criticism. However, it is also correct that the ordinary worker is responsible for bad work, shoddy goods, failures to make planned deliveries, and the complaints that follow. But I believe that there are problems with criticism and self-criticism here.

We proceed from the general idea that the working class is the advanced class, the vanguard, the leader. All this is true. But from this correct idea we often derive an incorrect pseudotheory which states that each individual worker also represents the working class. The advanced class. The bogus principle begins to emerge that you can criticize anyone except a worker. [Article as published in Second Edition omits preceding paragraph]

As a result the fact is overlooked that many workers (but not the working class itself) often lack self-discipline, organization, self-control, and awareness of the need for strenuous efforts in everyday labor.

It is clearly necessary to formulate and introduce a whole package of measures to correctly measure each person's actual labor input. To some extent a false psychological factor operates here, whereby some economic leaders proceed from the premise that a person cannot live on earned income alone. In other cases personal favors are repaid in this way. In yet other cases people try to win false prestige among workers. Yet real concern for cadres has nothing to do with indifference, all-forgiveness, charitableness, and currying favor.

But for some people in the decisionmaking sphere a sense of total license in the economy has gradually taken shape -- they overreport and add some things which have not been done to the work which has been done. Because the leader does not actually see the consequences of his specific action in this area. He does not pause to think that, in aggregate, the many thousands of exaggerations and distortions of this kind hold back the growth of the economy and make it impossible to implement many social programs, including in the wages area itself.

Imperceptibly an irresponsible "economic mentality" has developed: pad the figures slightly, distort them slightly, tailor everything slightly to fit the average. You do not get criticized or deprived of your bonuses for average figures. This gives rise to acquisitiveness. A leader demands good work from someone but in reply hears: "You (or usually 'you, buster') try to find someone better for R120." So there. And yet the economy has always demanded a respectful attitude, absolute discipline, and order. This is precisely where we find bottlenecks.

How To Prevent Bottlenecks [subhead]

These bottlenecks did not emerge spontaneously. The fact is that in the sixties and seventies liberal trends and attitudes were introduced into the economy. They distorted the principles of economic discipline, which is absolutely essential, and made workers feel confident that the production sphere could be manipulated in an uncontrolled fashion. Gradually people became confident that they could treat the economy without respect that they could accept a decision (or not), that it was permissible to ignore the economic laws and to give no thought to the consequences of arbitrary or ill-considered actions. [Article as published in Second Edition omits passage from lines four-five "and made workers" through end of paragraph]

A mass, influential, administrative-bureaucratic form of economic thinking took shape. It is what ultimately created the braking mechanism. The distortion of the principles of economic discipline occurred both at the top and at the bottom. And soon it became illegally enshrined in labor legislation. Don't the slackening of labor discipline, lateness, absenteeism, and instances of insolence by subordinates toward leaders stem from this? The result is nonfulfillment of plan targets, poor quality goods, and shoddy work.

It is extremely bothersome to dismiss an idler or slipshod worker. The leader himself will more likely wind up being found guilty. The "aggrieved party" drags him through the courts and complains to various bodies. It is precisely such workers who "extort" by hook or by crook inflated indicators regarding their own labor input and create an unhealthy atmosphere in collectives. Incidentally, we do not wage a determined and principled struggle against people like that.

Some leaders often pander to them by presenting "false figures." [paragraph continues]

There are plenty of enterprises in our country which achieve merely 100-percent fulfillment of the annual plan when each individual worker overfulfills his pledges by 50 or even 100 percent. And "indicators" are often established for the future to ensure that the increase in wages exceeds the growth in labor productivity.

The standard of leadership in such instances is demonstrated by real deeds. But what about concepts such as conscience? For example, the conscience of someone who accepts money that he has not earned. People must understand that the realities of economic life are harsh. They demand regulation on the basis of principles of exceptional accuracy, truthfulness, and absolute strictness. I believe that the solution is to resolutely tackle the machinery for recording and monitoring social labor, to review the norms and wage rates, to remove the mechanism which obstructs the human factor, and perhaps to review labor legislation too.

Halfheartedness in this matter and cosmetic measures will not produce the necessary effect. It is necessary to eliminate the gap which has emerged between the stern realities of daily working life and starry-eyed notions about the ideal man. This is the second aspect of the truly revolutionary, truly democratic restructuring of our society's entire economic life.

I also think it is important to abandon the traditional practice of announcing at the beginning of each 5-year plan a precise indicator for wage increases for various categories of workers. If we switch to a system of labor-based remuneration dependent on the successes achieved by enterprises in their activity, what is the point in precisely fixing people's potential earnings in advance? Moreover, such one-shot mass wage increases sometimes have no incentive effect at all. [Article published in a Second Edition omits preceding sentence]

The main aim is to create the conditions which make it possible to make full use of the human factor, to reveal its enormous reserves, and to set them in motion while paying in full for each percentage point increase in real labor indicators. There should be no fear that labor-based remuneration will have some "unforeseen" effect. Payment for individual labor, for actual labor has always been morally acceptable, no matter how extreme it may seem to some people. [Article published in Second Edition omits passage from line three "while paying in" through end of item.]

OVERCONSUMPTION CAUSES POWER SUPPLY PROBLEMS

PM301545 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 18, Apr 87 (Signed to Press 23 Apr 87) p 3

[G. Georgiyev report: "How Fuel and Energy Resources Are Utilized: Electricity"]

[Text] A shortage of fuel resources at thermal power stations is a special feature of the functioning power systems in the first months of spring. The winter stocks of these resources are already exhausted -- which upsets the smooth working of power stations and the fuel and energy balance of the country's regions. Thus, as a consequence of great shortfalls in deliveries of coal and fuel oil, a strained situation persists at power stations in the Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Uzbakistan, Georgia, Armenia, the Buryat ASSR, the North Caucasus, Amur Oblast, and Krasnoyarsk Kray. The measures being taken are not yet having the proper effect.

The overconsumption of electricity for production needs by enterprises and organizations remains a major destabilizing factor. [paragraph continues]

According to data of the Main State Inspectorate for Power Engineering Control, above-quota expenditure of electricity by enterprises of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, the USSR Ministry of Railways, and other ministries and departments exceeded 800 million kilowatt-hours in March. In Rostov, Belgorod, Kostroma, Penza, and Tula Oblasts alone agricultural consumers exceeded the quotas by 100 million kilowatt-hours, and in the Ukranian SSR by 350 million kilowatt-hours. The generation of above-plan electricity required additional fuel expenditure.

The state of affairs is not improving in April either. An analysis of operational returns shows that above-plan electricity consumption in the country totaled 1.8 billion kilowatt-hours over 10 days. Some 1.7 million tonnes of additional standard fuel was consumed for those purposes.

Among the most energy-intensive production processes monitored on a daily basis 516 enterprises of the USSR Construction Materials Industry, the USSR Ministry of Railways, the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy, the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, the USSR Ministry of the Automotive Industry, the USSR Ministry of Petroleum Refining and the Petrochemical Industry, and other ministries and departments overconsumed electricity to the tune of 187 million kilowatt-hours.

ECONOMY IN 1987 'CANNOT BE CONSIDERED SATISFACTORY'

LD201242 Moscow TASS in English 1219 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 30 TASS -- Public production and living standards in the Soviet Union showed growth in the first three months of 1987 although the results of economic performance on the whole cannot be considered satisfactory, first deputy head of the USSR Central Board of Statistics Nikolay Belov told a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists here today.

Belov observed that a serious slump was allowed to take place in January. The lag was overcome to a large extent in March.

In January 1987 industrial output was practically at the level of the first month of the previous year. In February, the indicator exceeded by 1.8 percent the mark for the corresponding period last year. The growth reached 6 per cent in March.

The growth of labour productivity was a good "barometer" of the reconstruction drive, Belov went on to say. Target assignments for labour productivity growth were surpassed in the first three months.

The indicator for industry grew by 2.6 per cent against the corresponding period last year (6.2 per cent in March).

Positive changes were taking place in the structure of consumption. The sale of meat products increased by 5 per cent, of dairy products by 4 and of friut and citrus by 10 per cent.

The sale of alcoholic beverages dropped by 30 per cent.

The demographic situation was improving, Belov observed. 5.6 million people were born last year, a post-war record high.

NUCLEAR POWER MINISTER COMMENTS ON NEW REACTOR

LD040554 Moscow TASS in English 0543 GMT 04 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 4 TASS -- The creation of a new nuclear reactor meeting increased reliability and safety demands in exploitation has been started in the Soviet Union.

Nikolay Lukonin, USSR minister of nuclear power engineering, explained in a TASS interview the difference between the new reactor and the existing ones. He said that the main difference was that in the new reactor all the processes would be automatically controlled. The need for the personnel to interfere in the control process at a nuclear power plant will be reduced to the minimum. A widely used water-moderated reactor was chosen as a basic model for the development of the new reactor.

Its technological scheme is simple: Ordinary water serves both as a heat carrier and as a moderator of neutrons. One of its obvious advantages is that nearly the whole of the reactor of this type can be manufactured at a plant and can be delivered to an assembly site actually as a single unit.

Water-moderated reactors won good reputation both in the Soviet Union and in a number of other countries. Apart from them, Soviet nuclear power plants use other reactors as well, specifically channel graphite-moderated water-cooled reactors. They are a little more costly and require numerous personnel to service them.

FURTHER UPDATE ON MIR ORBITAL COMPLEX OPERATIONS

LD301101 Moscow TASS in English 0957 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 30 TASS -- TASS special correspondent reports from the Mission Control Centre:

The 12th week of the space flight of Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin is coming to a close. The working program of the crew included in the past several days the unloading of the Progress-29 pilotless transport spacecraft, the deployment of the equipment brought by it and the mastering of various regimes of orientation and stabilization of the sophisticated orbital complex consisting of four spacecraft. After preliminary operations for pumping liquid nitrogen out of the fuel tanks of the engine of the orbital complex their refilling with fuel and oxidizer was started.

On May 1 Romanenko and Laveykin will have a day off. It is planned to show them a TV report on a demonstration of working people in the Red Square and to enable them to see their families.

According to the telemetric data and reports from the orbit, the flight of the Mir manned complex is going on normally.

OFFICIAL VIEWS NEW SYSTEM FOR USE IN SPACE

LD012116 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 1 May 87

[Text] Testing of the new orientation system is underway on the orbital complex Mir, on which Cosmonauts Yuriy Viktorovich Romanenko and Aleksandr Ivanovich Laveykin have been working for almost 3 months.

The system is to direct the telescopes located on the Kvant astrophysical module to specific points in space with great precision. Our correspondent interviewed (Viktor Dmitriyevich Blagov), deputy flight commander.

[Begin Recording] [Correspondent] Viktor Dmitriyevich, this huge, powerful complex has been set up in orbit now, and of course its orientation would require vast fuel consumption. Now a fundamentally new solution has been found: Huge gyroscopes, gyrodynes have been set up which, using solar energy, are to orientate the entire complex. What will the role of the flight control center be in this work?

[Blagov] This is a new means of orientation. We have not worked with it, but it is not in space for the first time; the Molniya communication satellites, for example, have such a system. These, though, are automated apparata, and the task of these gyroscopes is easy enough -- to support the object's constant stabilization. The special-purpose gyroscopes set up on the Kvant module are more complex in function and design and require more attention on the part of the flight control center personnel to service them and to provide them with data. Substantial electricity consumption is needed. Once tested, they will enable us to carry out orientation with scarcely any loss of mass carrier or of the fuel continually being delivered into orbit by Progress. The scientific program has grown to such an extent that it is now experiencing a fuel shortage, and once the complex reaches full size, there will be no fuel reserves as it will need a lot of fuel and a lot of Progress craft. A critical system could have developed if a system like this had not been thought up. You can always get electricity from solar batteries.

[Correspondent] An obvious advantages, but will there be problems in assimilating the system?

[Blagov] This will take a fairly long time. I think we will have to verify these means themselves for about a month. All in all, you could say that we will be learning ourselves, learning how to work with the system and, as it were, teaching the special-purpose gyroscopes along with the whole on-board control system to work, to operate. This of course, requires a lot of earth-based preparation to develop the software and learn how to work with this. [end recording]

BRIEFS

REDESIGNED ICEBREAKER -- Most of the tests have been completed on the Soviet icebreaker Mudyug. The ship is now moving across the packice beyond the 77th Parallel east of Spitsbergen. The icebreaker was reconstructed last autumn; the special design of the bow and the ship's powerful blades enable it to cut through the icefield instead of crushing it with the hull as all other icebreakers do. The tests off Spitsbergen, which have been under way throughout most of April, have shown that the ship can cut a channel through ice which is 1 and 1/2 meters thick. Icebreakers of the ordinary type was around 100 tonnes of fuel for such work, whereas 50 tonnes are sufficient for the icebreaker. After completing the tests, a special commission will determine whether it is worthwhile to redesign other icebreakers, including atomic-powered icebreakers. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0030 GMT 30 Apr 87 LD]

ARMY PAPER VIEWS PERSONNEL'S MORAL QUALITIES

PM281209 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Apr 87 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Moral Example"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] In our military family there are among the Communist leaders many political fighters whose loyalty to their duty serves as a moral guideline for those around them... [passage omitted]

But the truth requires that we also speak of something else. Of the fact that in our army family there are people whose moral countenance is far removed from honesty. An officer who displays no zeal in service, who has spotted his honor with unworthy conduct, is suddenly promoted to a higher post. Someone's "caring" hand has been at work, or to be more precise protectionism has shown itself... A commander has sent the personnel to earn money allegedly to pay for construction materials for amenities for their cantonment. But some of the money earned goes to pay for a banquet or sits in the pockets of retainers... These are just a few instances from recent KRASNAYA ZVEZDA publications. The editorial mail also brings many alarm calls.

Yes, unfortunately this is still a reality -- individual officers and leaders invested with great trust violate moral norms and sometimes embark on the path of money-grubbing and the abuse of their official position. Careerism, protectionism, and unseemly conduct in daily life still appear. Thus, Major B. Logvinov was recently expelled from the party and demoted for abusing his official position and for moral unscrupulousness. From the rostrum he uttered many fine words about honesty and seemliness. But on verification?.. It is not hard to imagine the harm caused to people's moral education by leaders living according to the norms of a dual morality and dual standards who "allow" themselves what they warn their subordinates against.

Today the determining indicator of an officer's morality is his active stance in implementing restructuring, where the main criterion is the deed, the end result in work, a high degree of combat readiness, strong discipline, and firm statutory order. And we must see and react promptly when time-serving, personal amitions, and self-seeking act under the flag of restructuring, when specific restructuring work is replaced by hollow phrases and mere verbiage.

Any discrepancy between word and deed, whether it is a case of indulgences in combat training, the nonfulfillment of pledges, outward show, servility, toadying, or bureaucratic red tape, is immoral. And it is very important that we are talking about this today out loud, without respect of persons, seeing in this a guarantee that negative phenomena will be overcome. The further expansion of openness and the development of criticism and self-criticism are a reliable weapon in the struggle to ensure the moral example of every leader and every serviceman. The decisive word here goes to the political organs and party organizations called on to enhance their exactingness toward Communists for their honesty nature, to stand guard over the purity of the moral atmosphere in the military collectives, and to wage a relentless battle against lack of spirituality, egotism, philistinism, and indifference. It is their duty to improve the quality of cadres' political and theoretical training and to enhance their ideological and moral tempering.

The cultural and enlightenment institutions and military newspapers and journals can do a lot to assert our morality. [paragraph continues]

It is a positive fact that criticism in defense of our moral values has been heard more frequently recently in the pages of army and navy publications. But unfortunately the wealth of the personality of the commander and political worker, their spiritual qualities, and their attitude toward public affairs and the family are not always shown brightly, vitally, and persuasively.

Our morality is active and vigorous. Let's always remember that a moral example is a creative force which cements our army ranks and gives people a charge of energy and puts them in the mood to resolve the practical tasks of restructuring.

LEADERS SIGN OBITUARY OF RETIRED GENERAL

PM301229 MOSCOW KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Apr 87 First Edition p 4

[A.S. Burdeynyy obituary]

[Excerpts] Colonel General (Retired) Aleksey Semenovich Burdeynyy has died suddenly. His entire conscious life was one of dedicated service to the socialist homeland and the cause of the Communist Party, of which he had been a member since 1928.

A.S. Burdeynyy was born in 1908 in Zhitomir, the son of a worker. [passage omitted]

After the war A.S. Burdeynyy was commander of a mechanized army, first deputy commander of the Belorussian Military District, and chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Central Directorate. [passage omitted]

S.L. Sokolov, S.F. Akhromeyev, V.G. Kulikov, P.G. Lushev. A.D. Lizichev, N.I. Savinkin, Yu.P. Maksimov, Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, A.I. Koldunov, A.N. Yefimov, V.N. Chernavin, I.M. Tretyak, S.K. Kurkotkin, V.M. Shabanov, N.F. Shestopalov, V.L. Govorov, D.T. Yazov, A.I. Sorokin, V.I. Petrov, V.F. Tolubko, I.G. Pavlovskiy, A.S. Zheltov, I.I. Gusakovskiy, D.D. Lelyushenko, G.I. Obaturov, O.A. Losik, V.M. Shuralev, A.N. Kolinichenko, A.T. Smirnov, I.V. Balabay, V.G. Galko, G.I. Goncharov

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